

# VFW

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

MAGAZINE

OCTOBER • 1982



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## VFW-PAC Endorsements

An explanation of the national security and veterans' issues on which VFW-PAC endorsements were based begins on page 5. The names of candidates endorsed by the VFW-PAC for election to the House of Representatives begin on page 22, continue on pages 42, 50 and 51 and conclude on page 52. Those backed by the VFW-PAC for election to the Senate are listed on page 42.



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## Cover

This scene of the ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery when the VFW honored the more than 57,000 dead in the Vietnam War last spring will be repeated on Veterans Day, Nov. 11, when Vietnam veterans will be honored as part of the National Salute to Vietnam Veterans, Nov. 10-14, in Washington. A story about this is on page 16 in connection with the overall coverage in this issue of the 83rd National Convention. VFW members are being urged by Commander-in-Chief James R. Currie to participate in the salute. (Photo by Bob Cyborski.)



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## MAIL CALL

### Vietnam Vet Abused

Our son fought in the Vietnam War and, like all the others who fought there, he is constantly being put down. Last night he went to register for college in Denver and someone made a nasty remark about him being a Vietnam veteran.

I'm really concerned about this, because these vets could get defensive and decide to do something about all this abuse from their countrymen. I certainly hope that this doesn't happen, because we don't

(See Mail Call page 46)

### 'Real People' Features All Veteran Show, Nov. 10

The "Real People" show on NBC television Nov. 10 at 8 p.m. EST will be devoted to "another salute to the American veteran," its producer, George Schlatter, has announced.

Last year's Veterans Day program was so successful that it was run again last May, Schlatter recalled in his announcement to then Commander-in-Chief Arthur J. Fellwack.

Schlatter and "Real People" received the VFW Gold Medal of Merit and Citation in recognition of the Nov. 11 show of last year and its recognition of the contributions veterans have made to the United States.

"We hope that this show will be as entertaining, moving and informative as last season's show and we hope it will attract an even larger audience," Schlatter wrote.

### To Atomic Veterans

The U.S. General Accounting Office, an agency of Congress, is currently reviewing the methods used in recording radiation exposure doses for military personnel who participated in nuclear weapons tests at the Nevada test site in the mid-1950s. If you have any specific knowledge of the methods that were used, contact Robert J. Baney or William D. Brooks, U.S. General Accounting Office, Room A2-2200, 270 Coporate Center, Germantown, Md. 20874.



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- TO INSURE THE NATIONAL SECURITY through maximum military strength.
- TO SPEED THE REHABILITATION of the nation's disabled and needy veterans.
- TO ASSIST THE WIDOWS AND ORPHANS, and the dependents of disabled and needy veterans.
- TO PROMOTE AMERICANISM through education in patriotism and constructive service to the communities in which we live.

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MEMBER AUDIT BUREAU  
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# WASHINGTON WIRE

• News Affecting You •

## VetsGram

### LEGISLATIVE

A \$13.3 BILLION CUT IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS OVER THE NEXT THREE FISCAL YEARS IS A MAJOR FEATURE OF THE OMNIBUS RECONCILIATION ACT OF 1982. OF THAT AMOUNT, \$3.4 BILLION WILL COME OUT OF FEDERAL CIVILIAN AND ARMED FORCES RETIREES' BENEFITS. THE ACT, PASSED BY THE HOUSE ORIGINALLY AS HR 6955, HAD NO PROVISION TO CAP COLA FOR FEDERAL RETIREES. SENATE-PASSED VERSION WOULD HAVE CAPPED RETIREE COLA AT 4% FOR NEXT THREE YEARS.

SO MANY DIFFERENCES EXISTED BETWEEN HOUSE AND SENATE VERSIONS OF THE RECONCILIATION ACT THAT SEVERAL GROUPS OF CONFEREES WERE NAMED TO IRON THEM OUT. APPOINTED TO CONSIDER COLA WERE SENS. ROTH, STEVENS, MATTINGLY, EAGLETON AND PRYOR AND REPS. FORD (MICH.), UDALL, CLAY, DERWINSKI AND TAYLOR. THEY AGREED TO LIMIT FEDERAL AND ARMED FORCES RETIREES' COLA FOR NEXT THREE YEARS BY: RESTRICTING RETIREES UNDER 62 TO HALF OF OLDER RETIREES' COLA UNLESS RETIREMENT WAS DUE TO PHYSICAL DISABILITY (THREE-YEAR SAVINGS: \$3.3 BILLION).

REDUCING CIVILIAN PAY FOR ARMED FORCES RETIREES WHO ALSO ARE FEDERAL CIVIL SERVICE EMPLOYEES BY AMOUNT OF THEIR ARMED FORCES RETIREE COLA (SAVINGS: \$143 MILLION).

HOUSE PASSED THE BILL ON AUG. 17 BY A 243 TO 176 VOTE. FIFTEEN DID NOT VOTE. SAME MEASURE WAS PASSED THE NEXT DAY BY THE SENATE, 67 TO 32, WITH ONE NOT VOTING.

VFW OPPOSITION TO ANY SELECTIVE COLA CAP OR FREEZE WAS EXPRESSED IN A LETTER TO EACH SENATOR BY THEN COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF ARTHUR J. FELLWOCK, A TELEGRAM TO THE PRESIDENT BY COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF JAMES R. (BOB) CURRIEO AND IN TESTIMONY BEFORE THE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE.

\*\*\*

NOVEMBER COMPENSATION AND DIC CHECKS WILL BE 7.4% FATTER.

ORIGINAL BUDGET PASSED BY SENATE WOULD HAVE GRANTED A COST-OF-LIVING BOOST ONLY TO VETERANS RATED 70% OR MORE DISABLED AND THEN ONLY ONE OF 4%.

ACHIEVEMENT OF THE INCREASE, EFFECTIVE OCT. 1, WAS DUE TO THE HARD WORK OF THE VFW WASHINGTON OFFICE STAFF AND FRIENDS IN CONGRESS SUCH AS HVAC CHAIRMAN G. V. (SONNY) MONTGOMERY AND REP. JOHN PAUL HAMMERSCHMIDT, ITS RANKING MINORITY MEMBER, AND HOUSE BUDGET COMMITTEE MEMBERS W. G. HEFNER AND WILLIAM P. GRAMM.

\*\*\*

RECONCILIATION HITS VETERANS, TOO. OVER NEXT THREE YEARS MORE THAN \$550 MILLION WILL BE SAVED BY FIVE STEPS. FIRST IS A CHARGE OF A .5% USER FEE AVERAGING \$285 TO VETERANS GETTING A VA GUARANTEED HOME LOAN; EXEMPTED ARE VETERANS ENTITLED TO COMPENSATION FOR A SERVICE CONNECTED DISABILITY. SECOND IS CHANGING DATE FOR COMP AND PENSION PAYMENT TO THE FIRST DAY OF THE NEXT FULL MONTH FOLLOWING THE AWARD RATHER THAN THE DATE OF THE AWARD. THIRD IS MAKING THE EFFECTIVE DATE FOR REDUCTION OF BENEFITS BECAUSE OF A CHANGE IN DEPENDENCY STATUS THE END OF THE MONTH WHEN THE LOSS OCCURS RATHER THAN YEAR'S END. FOURTH IS ROUNDING DOWN TO THE NEXT LOWER DOLLAR COMP RATES. FIFTH, EFFECTIVE NEXT JUNE 1, IS ROUNDING DOWN TO THE NEXT LOWER DOLLAR OF COST-OF-LIVING INCREASES IN PENSIONS.

CONFEREES REJECTED ELIMINATION OF CORRESPONDENCE COURSES FOR VIETNAM VETERANS AND AMENDING DEFINITION OF A CHILD FOR PENSION PURPOSES.

\*\*\*

WEEK OF NOV. 7 IS NATIONAL DISABLED VETERANS WEEK, UNDER PUBLIC LAW 97-240 SIGNED BY PRESIDENT REAGAN AUG. 20. IT IS INTENDED TO FOCUS ATTENTION ON CONTRIBUTIONS MADE BY SERVICE CONNECTED DISABLED VETERANS TO THE U.S. APPROPRIATE PROGRAMS, CEREMONIES AND ACTIVITIES BY GOVERNMENT AT ALL LEVELS ARE PLANNED. NATIONAL FAMILY WEEK IS NOV. 21-27, PROCLAIMED BY PRESIDENT AS REQUESTED BY PL 97-235.



# VFW-PAC Endorsements

The 1982 elections for the House of Representatives and Senate will be the second in which the Veterans of Foreign Wars Political Action Committee has participated since its formation by the 80th National Convention. In the 1980 federal elections, the VFW-PAC scored a success record of 89% with its endorsements of candidates. The same method of selection was used this year as in 1980. Issues were chosen, based on VFW mandates, from national security and veterans' legislative questions in the House and Senate. A 60% record on 14 roll call votes supporting the VFW position in the House and Senate qualified a candidate for endorsement. An asterisk after names indicates endorsement of both candidates. AL means at-large rather than a Congressional district. New district numbers are used because of the redistricting after the 1980 census. Past Commander-in-Chief Cooper T. Holt is VFW-PAC Director.

## ISSUES IN THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Seven issues were selected in each of the areas of national security and veterans' programs. The issue and the date recorded are indicated so that the Representative can identify his vote with the issue.

The resolution which mandates the VFW position is also given. If a Congressman supported the VFW position, he was given a favorable score. His overall score is shown by his name.

### National Security

1. HR 3519 (Vote #135, Recorded 7/16/81), Rep. Schroeder's amendment to require an \$8 billion reduction in defense programs in FY 1982. VFW opposed passage; rejected 142-276. Fulfills VFW Resolutions No. 401, 407, 434, 445.

2. HR 3519 (Vote #140, Recorded 7/16/81), passage of an adequate defense authorization for FY 1982 for weaponry, research, operations, etc. VFW supported passage; passed 354-63. Fulfills VFW Resolution No. 407.

3. HR 4995 (Vote #316, Recorded 11/18/81), Rep. Addabbo's amendment to reduce B-1 Bomber spending by \$1.8 billion. VFW opposed passage; rejected 142-263. Fulfills VFW Resolution No. 407.

4. HR 4995 (Vote #317), Recorded 11/18/81), Rep. Addabbo's amendment to reduce defense spending by \$1.91 billion on the MX missile development and deployment program. VFW opposed passage; rejected 139-264. Fulfills VFW Resolution No. 407.

5. HR 4995 (Vote #320), Recorded 11/18/81), passage of the bill setting defense spending levels for FY 1982. VFW supported passage; passed 335-61. Fulfills VFW Resolutions No. 401, 407.

6. H. Con. Res. 345 (Vote #109, Recorded 5/26/82), Rep. Green's amendment to reduce defense spending ceiling by \$16 billion in FY

1983-85. VFW opposed passage; rejected 125-295. Fulfills VFW Resolutions No. 416, 422, 435.

7. H. Con. Res. 345 (Vote #116, Recorded 5/27/82), Rep. Oaker's amendment to reduce defense spending ceiling by \$4.85 billion for the purpose of Medicare funding. VFW opposed passage; passed 228-196. Fulfills VFW Resolution No. 422.

### Veterans' Legislation

8. H. Con. Res. 115 (Vote #36, Recorded 5/7/81), a substitute to the original federal budget whereby \$400 million would be restored to the budget for VA regional offices and hospitals. VFW supported passage; passed 253-176. Fulfills VFW Resolution No. 609; Priority Goal.

9. H. Con. Res. 115 (Vote #37, Recorded 5/7/81), passage of resolution containing the increased budget for VA regional offices, hospitals and programs. VFW supported passage; passed 270-154. Fulfills VFW Resolution No. 609; Priority Goal.

10. H. Con. Res. 115 (Vote #51), Recorded 5/20/81), passage of preliminary House-Senate Veterans Administration budget resolution. VFW supported passage; passed 244-155. Fulfills VFW Resolution No. 609; Priority Goal.

11. HR 3499 (Vote #54, Recorded 6/2/81), extending and expanding Vietnam veterans' health care and counseling programs, and minimum bed level for VA. VFW supported passage; passed 388-0. Fulfills VFW Resolutions No. 639, 670; Priority Goal.

12. HR 1100 (Vote #57, Recorded 6/2/81), providing comprehensive rules and regulations for handling health care and compensation claims for former prisoners of war. VFW supported passage; passed 394-2. Fulfills VFW Resolution No. 685; Priority Goal.

13. HR 4034 (Vote #147, Recorded 7/21/81), passage of House version of the Veterans Administration budget for FY 1982. VFW supported passage; passed 362-54. Fulfills VFW Resolution No. 609; Priority Goal.

14. HR 4034 (Vote #203, Recorded

9/15/81), final passage of the House-Senate compromise, funding VA medical care, compensation, pension, and Vietnam veteran programs. VFW supported passage; passed 209-197. Fulfills VFW Resolution No. 609; Priority Goal.

## ISSUES IN THE U.S. SENATE

Legislation is introduced in both houses of the Congress. It was necessary to look at bills in the Senate. As in the House seven issues were selected in each of the areas of national defense and veterans' programs.

### National Security

1. S 815 (Vote #119, Recorded 5/14/81), passage of an adequate defense authorization bill for weaponry, research, operations, etc. VFW supported passage; passed 92-1. Fulfills VFW Resolutions No. 401, 407, 449, 665.

2. HR 4995 (Vote #449, Recorded 12/3/81), an amendment by Senator Hatfield to reduce defense procurement and research spending by 2% or \$1.7 billion. VFW opposed passage; rejected 36-57. Fulfills VFW Resolutions No. 401, 407, 449.

3. HR 4995 (Vote #456, Recorded 12/4/81), passage of bill setting spending levels for defense programs for 1982. VFW supported passage; passed 84-5. Fulfills VFW Resolutions No. 401, 407.

4. S 2248 (Vote #111, Recorded 5/13/82), Senator Tower's motion to kill Senator Hart's amendment to reduce defense spending by \$3.7 billion by cancelling construction of a Nimitz class nuclear aircraft carrier. VFW supported passage; passed 63-32. Fulfills VFW Resolutions No. 416, 435; Priority Goal.

5. S 2248 (Vote #120, Recorded 5/13/82), passage of the bill establishing defense spending levels for 1983. VFW supported passage; passed 84-8. Fulfills VFW Resolutions No. 416, 422, 434, 435.

6. S. Con. Res. 92 (Vote #125, Recorded 5/19/82), Senator Baker's motion to kill Sen-  
(See VFW PAC page 22)



# The Task Ahead, A Mandate for Action



Commander-in-Chief  
James R. Currieo

*(This is the acceptance speech of Commander-in-Chief James R. (Bob) Currieo delivered after his election at the 83rd National Convention in Los Angeles, Aug. 19.)*

Today the Veterans of Foreign Wars is experiencing greater prestige, esteem and clout than at any other time in the 83-year history of our organization.

This did not just happen. It was caused by the leadership and dedication of many of you here today: Past Commanders-in-Chief, Department Commanders, District Commanders, Post Commanders, rank and file VFW members, young and old, rich and poor, from every segment of our society.

I believe our ritual sums it up well. As we decorate our new members with the Cross of Malta, we tell them the Cross of Malta glorifies the tattered shirt of the poorest working man and beautifies the coat worn by those highest in our land. It binds us all together in a spirit of comradeship and, of course, with the many thousands who have literally given their lives for our organization. It was you who laid the foundation for which we now launch a new spirit of commitment to our nation, our veterans and our future.

My words here today will be brief. All of us gathered here will be remembered, not for what any one of us says, but rather for what we do and the direction we must follow. I have set Strength Through Service as our motto for the year ahead. Strength Through Service is not new. It has been the bedrock of our organization for more than 83 years. Therefore, this is where the Veterans of Foreign Wars is coming from and this is the course we have charted.

Service to the veteran by an expanded and aggressive nationwide Service Officer system.

Service to Congress by vigilant and let-the-chips-fall-where-they-may VFW political action.

Service to our country by an informed and unapologetic commitment to an American defense so strong that any real or potential adversary will tremble in mortal fear at the very thought of provoking these United States.

But, history is neutral. Neither Communism nor freedom is divinely fated to win or to lose. History is what determined and dedicated people do with the events that affect their lives. What will we, the determined and dedicated people in the VFW, do with the events that have affected our lives? We have already answered that question. That answer is total political action involvement.

Three years ago when the Political Action Committee issue was being debated, sincere comrades argued that establishing a Political Action Committee would put us into politics and would divide our Post Homes by party affiliation. We don't play our inevitable political role as Democrats or Republicans, but as American patriots who intend to hold this Administration, this Congress and successive Administrations and Congresses to strict account as to where they stand on veterans' programs and a strong national defense.

Some say, "We don't deal with bread and butter issues." I say to those critics: Ask the disabled veteran if the compensation he receives and has earned, if that is not a bread and butter issue; ask the veteran who needs hospital care if the veterans hospital system is not a bread and butter issue; ask the veteran attending college and supporting a family, if the GI education entitlement is not a bread and butter issue and ask the young serviceman or woman if his or her military pay is not a bread and butter issue. Yes, my comrades and sisters, we do deal with bread and but-

ter issues that affect the veterans of this country.

By casting their votes for or against veterans' entitlements and the common defense, members of Congress try on our political action shoe and announce loud and clear whether or not it fits. Our support or our opposition is brought on members of Congress by their voting record and theirs alone.

Our friends and our opponents announce themselves.

And to say that our political action involvement divides Post Homes stands reason on its head. Our Political Action Committee's precise and enlightened review of roll call votes has given new unity to this organization that we love more than life itself. The issues of compensation, hospitalization and education are political issues and can be addressed only through political action.

The 1980 Veterans of Foreign Wars political action record is now history. It was the envy of all veterans' organizations and an 89% success in our endorsements.

Our Political Action Committee has done its job for the 1982 mid-term elections. Fourteen roll call votes, based on mandates you have set forth, have been selected. Seven each for national security and veterans' entitlements. I support these carefully-reviewed choices. You will, soon after the state primaries, be informed of those political action issues and how your Senator or Representative scored.

This scorecard will be our VFW call to political involvement and here I ask for total unity. Forget personalities and focus on issues. In the past we have elected to Congress those who were to serve as guardians of our principles, our ideals and above all our security. But once elected they became, instead, the architects of our

*(see Task Ahead page 8)*



(Continued from page 6)

## THE TASK AHEAD ...

nation's retreat. If a legislator can't score 60% on our issues, he may be the nicest guy in town, but he is not a fighter for what we stand for and he should be so informed at the ballot box.

Our friends who have earned our support must receive it at every level. I urge Post, District, County Council, State and National to support those endorsements publicly and financially.

For the very few in our midst who remain unpersuaded as to the value of our political action, my message will be brief: If you won't lead, and if you refuse to follow, be kind enough to get out of the way. That express train you see hurtling by is the VFW of the future and its engine is called "VFW—Political Action." It is not even a "sleeping giant," as a favorable news story has recently called it, but a growing power not just for you and me, but for 30 million veterans, their families and for every citizen of the United States.

Now, of course, we wouldn't need a VFW, let alone a VFW Political Action Committee, if the Administration and some members of Congress had memories that stretched back further than last night's TV news broadcasts. If they did, they would remember those who did not run away, but who were there when their countrymen needed them. The Veterans of Foreign Wars has always been at their side. This was illustrated in the recent VFW Service Officer Success Story which describes a young Vietnam veteran, who, after being denied disability for an in-service kidney condition, turned his case over to the VFW. Through the determination of VFW Post, State and National Service Offices, he was finally granted a 100% disability and awarded a \$20,000 retroactive payment.

This is only one of the more than 200,000 cases handled by the VFW. Many are success stories such as this one. The VFW is truly the veterans' advocate, always there to help the veteran and his family cut the winding tape of bureaucratic indifference and timid rule-making.

You would think our VA Administrator would be such an advocate.

You would think our VA Administrator would be a non-stop fighter for your rights.

Bluntly speaking, my comrades, anyone

who believes that Mr. Nimmo is "our" man among the President's closest advisers is not informed of all the facts. For example, Secretaries of Agriculture fight for farmers; Secretaries of Labor work with unions, and Secretaries of Commerce support business interests. Why is it, then, that only VA Administrators either work against or are indifferent to their reason for being: The veterans of this country?

Some may think we are being too tough on the present Administrator. You listen and make up your own minds.

Mr. Nimmo has described wartime service as an "inconvenience" (some inconvenience!) and called VA medical care "free medical care." Free! There is no such thing as free medical care for the veteran. Veterans who are so entitled earned every ounce of care they receive through loss of blood, limb and health. These are the toughest entrance dues known to man.

Mr. Nimmo has attempted to scale back new hospital construction, proposed to tighten eligibility criteria for the very medical care that he insultingly describes as "free" and referred to veterans' programs as "social welfare."

Furthermore, an article in the New York Times on June 17, 1982, credits him with saying that he "did not want the VA job and accepted it only to carry out the budget cuts Mr. Reagan wanted."

Mr. Nimmo will have to change his ways.

We are not about to change ours.

We in the VFW have a body of beliefs, prejudices if you will, that when added up will tell America and the world what the Veterans of Foreign Wars is all about.

Here are those bottom line beliefs about where we in the VFW must stand:

We in the VFW believe that the VA budget must be a larger percentage of the federal and not less as it has been for the past seven years.

We in the VFW believe that if a veteran is ill and in need of medical attention, VA health-care professionals and a hospital bed must be available immediately.

We in the VFW believe that if cost-of-living increases are to be capped or frozen for disabled veterans and federal retirees, they must be capped or frozen also for all federal beneficiaries.

We in the VFW believe that Vietnam veterans deserve faster action in resolving the problems caused them and their families by exposure to herbicides and other toxic substances while in Vietnam.

We in the VFW believe that honorably discharged veterans who choose not to reenlist must be entitled to unemployment compensation on the same basis as civilian workers who fulfill their contracts with an employer.

We in the VFW believe the basic integrity of the VA health-care system, the compensation, dependency indemnity compensation and pension programs must be maintained whatever the cost.

We in the VFW believe the Administrator of Veterans Affairs must be the veteran's advocate and not the veteran's adversary.

We in the VFW believe that no veteran should have to pay a user's fee for VA medical care.

We in the VFW believe that contracting out jobs held by federal civilian employees to private contractors circumvents veterans' preference in federal employment and must be stopped, not increased, as now proposed by the Administrator.

We in the VFW believe preference is more than just words. In fact, it is really a contract this nation must keep with those who gave of their most precious possessions, time, health and, in some cases, their very lives.

We in the VFW believe all veterans deserve the opportunity to work so they might continue to serve this great nation as productive citizens and hold their heads high among their peers.

Though we are at odds with certain elements of the Administration, we do have an Administration, at least when it comes to national defense, that is truly determined to rearm America. And not a moment too soon.

There is a story making the rounds in Washington that had the Falkland Islands crisis happened a few years back, we would have seen 100,000 sheep roaming the streets of Miami with half of them enrolled in the public school system.

Well, the decade-long VFW effort to increase our defense posture and make patriotism pay at the polls is being felt across America.

A Gallup Poll recently taken around the world asked people if they were "very proud of their country." The results: Britain, 55%; West Germany, 21%; Japan, 30%, and America, 80%.

When asked if they would be "willing to fight for their country," the answers included Britain, 62%, and America, 71%.

These encouraging figures didn't just  
(See *The Task Ahead* page 14)



# Famous Americans Honored

Each year at the National Convention, many Americans are singled out for major VFW awards for their achievements in space exploration, military service, the news media, entertainment and other fields of endeavor. In these pictures Commander-in-Chief Arthur J. Fellwock is shown making the presentations.



Gold Medal of Merit to retired Air Force Lt. Gen. John Flynn, the senior American POW in Southeast Asia. In the center is Mrs. Flynn.



Certificate of Commendation to Ira and Josephine Coutermarsh for 30 years' and 11,000 hours' volunteer work in VA hospitals. Coutermarsh accepts.



Edward D. McCarthy, an Arvada, Colo., police officer, accepts the VFW J. Edgar Hoover Award.



The VFW Citizenship Award goes to Charlton Heston.



Felix A. Von Magnus, center, after receiving the VFW Certificate of Appreciation for nearly 20 years' service as Assistant National Sergeant-at-Arms. On the left is National Sergeant-at-Arms Leopold Malyszko.



The Space Award is accepted by Navy Capt. Thomas K. Mattingly III for the other astronauts involved in the Space Shuttle.



Newsweek's Stryker McGuire receives the VFW Certificate of Recognition for articles in the magazine presenting Vietnam veterans in a positive light.



Navy pilots who shot down two threatening Libyan planes last year receive the Armed Forces Award. They are Lt. Lawrence Muczynski, James Anderson and David Venlet and Cmdr. Henry Kleemann.



George Schlatter and his "Real People" television show receive the VFW Gold Medal of Merit.

(See Americans Honored page 12)



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## Famous Americans Honored

(Continued from page 10)



Mrs. Eunice Kennedy Shriver is presented the Hall of Fame Award for her work with Special Olympics.



Dr. Donald L. Custis, VA chief medical director, receives a VFW Life Membership.



Mrs. Helen K. Copley, head of the Copley Newspapers, accepts the News Media Award.



Commander-in-Chief Arthur J. Fellwock receives a citation from Clifton E. Simmons, Boy Scouts' community relations director, for the work done by the VFW for scouting.

## State and Department Commanders



**BOBBY R. WALLS**  
Virginia



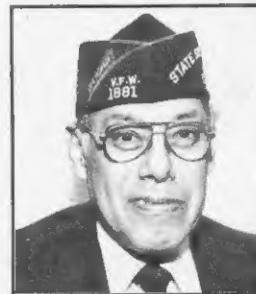
**FRED KAUFFMAN**  
Washington



**DANNY WOOFERT**  
West Virginia



**LEROY MARLEWSKI**  
Wisconsin



**M. J. (MEL) ORNELAS**  
Wyoming



(Continued from page 8)

## THE TASK AHEAD ...

happen. Think back how things were 10 years ago. Our proud order was at the forefront of patriotic groups who never quit on America.

It will be at least 10 more years before long years of military neglect are overcome.

Statistics on the Soviet-U.S. military balance are frightening. Soviets outman the U.S. 4 to 1, outgun the U.S. 6 to 1. If our President were party to anything less than total and absolute security for America, in my judgment, he would be criminally liable and in violation of his oath of office, just as the mayors of New York or Chicago or any other major city would be if they disarm their police force.

The VFW is not in the military hardware business or military weapons systems business. But the VFW is in the people business. We say this: "We of the VFW will support whatever weapons or hardware our defense planners deem necessary and needed. But we also say that whatever military hardware or weapons are put in the hands of our troops had better be the best money can buy or this organization will come down hard on both planners and builders."

We have just reviewed the National Security Resolutions adopted at this convention and I proudly accept those resolutions as my mandate and your mandate for action.

Specifically, for but a few examples:

Halt the importation of cars manufactured by foreign countries for two years and press Germany and Japan to invest more financially toward their own defense.

Cause the Soviet aggressors in Afghanistan to pay and bleed by providing the tough Afghan Freedom Fighters with needed small arms and anti-tank and anti-helicopter weapons.

Support the President in his effort to block construction of the Soviet pipeline to the West. The West Europeans plan to finance the proposed pipeline with Western capital at below market rates. Once in place, Soviet energy leverage over West Europe will make today's OPEC pressure look generous. And, by the way, we sell grain to the Soviet Union for cash on the barrelhead only.

If the countries of Western Europe view the Soviet Union more as a friend than an adversary, then the U.S. should

withdraw part or all of our forces from Europe, where they have placed their lives on the line.

Support a mutual and verifiable strategic arms limitation and reduction policy at equal and sharply-reduced levels. While doing so, meet and defeat those who, unthinkingly, would "freeze-now-and-count-later."

Never quit on our prisoners of war and missing in action until this issue of national honor has been fully and fairly resolved.

For far too long, America has sought affection rather than earning respect and has wound up getting neither.

I don't know whether what I am telling you is popular or not.

Frankly, it doesn't matter. For as long as there is a VFW, we will choose what is right over what is popular every time.

One thing we are doing which happens to be both right and popular, however, is the enthusiastic welcome our proud order has extended to America's Vietnam veterans.

With a growing 535,000 of you in our midst, you Vietnam veterans, in proportion to those who served in all of America's other conflicts, are now our most numerous comrades.

Keep on coming in! Our fine new Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, I predict, is but the first of your number who will have earned his way to our National leadership.

We respect you. We want you. And above all we need you.

You know how we fought for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington and I don't mean just talk. I mean more than \$250,000 already donated.

Well, our chests will swell and I guess our eyes will be just a little bit moist when we stand tall on Nov. 11, 1982, when this monument is dedicated in Constitution Gardens in Washington, D.C.

Not being an association of architects or art critics, the VFW stayed out of the squabble about what form the monument should take.

But one thing we understood from the start.

If we wanted to honor the Vietnam veteran—and God knows we do—it was going to be that design selected by the Memorial Fund's committee, and subsequently strengthened, or it was going to

be nothing.

And "nothing" is what our Vietnam Veterans have lived with for far too long.

What we seek in the VFW is simple: To celebrate the year 2000 A.D., with the United States the freest, richest and most decent nation ever to appear in 3,433 years of recorded history.

And, with your support and prayers, and mutually pledging "strength through service," we can make a start.

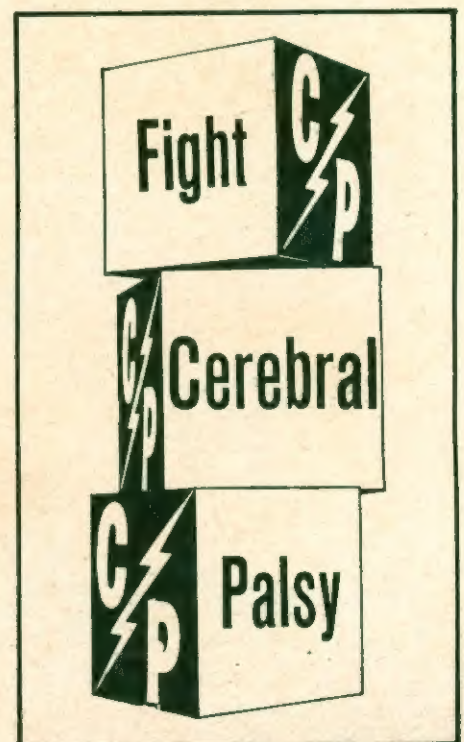
The Veterans of Foreign Wars is a strong union of organized veterans, united to uphold the objectives for which it was chartered. By maintaining and building our strength, we will continue to inspire the patriotic fiber of America.

We must impress upon all veterans and their families that the dues they pay are not solely for membership in a fraternal organization. Their dues are a sound investment in the future of our country, our families and ourselves. This must be our solemn commitment.

If we fail in this sacred charge, we will not only have failed the veterans in our ranks today, but we will have failed our countrymen of tomorrow. For the day will come when the call to arms will go out to the young men of this country and no one will answer.

We must demonstrate to all veterans, even to those who are not members of our organization, that the Veterans of Foreign Wars is ready to meet the responsibility and the challenge of this commitment and to continue to promote legislation that benefits and sustains the dignity of our men and women who served their country.

V/V/V





## National Salute to Vietnam Veterans

Cooper T. Holt  
Executive Director  
VFW Washington Office

The VFW has long supported the establishment of a Vietnam Veterans Memorial located in Washington, D.C., and has contributed a quarter of a million dollars to its construction.

The VFW believes the establishment of this memorial is providing the nation a unique opportunity to focus attention on the service and sacrifice of those who answered their country's call to duty during the Vietnam War.

In recognition of this timely and well deserved tribute, and in an effort to further the mission of the memorial project, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund is sponsoring a National Salute to Vietnam Veterans, Nov. 10 to 14, 1982, in Washington, D.C.

Activities include a live show entitled "Entertainers Salute Vietnam Veterans," military unit reunions, a Tribute to Vietnam Veterans Parade and nationwide religious services in honor of all Americans who served in Vietnam, including those who died or remain missing.

Commander-in-Chief James R. (Bob) Currie has encouraged participation by the VFW from each state in the activities scheduled by the organizers. Each state participation is being coordinated by the governor's director of veterans affairs office or directly by contacting the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, 1110 Vermont Ave., Suite 308, Washington, D.C. 20005.

Special rates are being arranged by the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund for transportation and lodging while veterans are in Washington.

While the salute is especially for Vietnam veterans, all veterans are invited to join in. Each state may have Vietnam veterans, a band or bands, a state delegation of veterans' groups and a massed color guard. Particulars may be obtained from each state capital.

Each VFW Department should make an effort to encourage participation. Raffles, cake sales and other fundraising efforts, where legal, will help raise funds to send VFW delegates and individual members to Washington. **VFW**



*Jan Scruggs, president of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, updates delegates on the status of the monument in Washington.*

The story of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington was unfolded for VFW National Convention delegates by the man closest to the project.

He is Jan Scruggs, president of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, whose dream it was to have his fellow veterans of the Vietnam War honored by the American public.

But, he acknowledged, his was not a one-man operation because "the VFW played a definite and extensive role."

Scruggs recalled that in 1969 he was in the infantry in Vietnam and then returned home to go back to college.

Later he recommended to Congress that a monument be erected to the Vietnam veterans, but when Congress backed away from the project, he decided to undertake its responsibility himself.

"I needed money to get interest stimulated and the VFW was the only organization in Washington to come forward with money," he continued. "Then I had to go to Congress to get two acres near the Lincoln Memorial. Cooper T. Holt [Executive Director of the VFW Washington Office] got personally involved.

"Then the VFW had fundraising dinners and everywhere I went the VFW was right in the middle of it and actually

contributed \$300,000."

Scruggs related some of the problems that arouse over the monument's design, "but the VFW stood by us and we added a statue of an American soldier and the Flag.

Two weeks ago, he said, the first panel containing the names of 165 dead was unveiled. When completed, the monument will bear the names of the more than 57,000 American dead in Vietnam.

Discussing the Nov. 10 to 14 Salute to Vietnam Veterans, Scruggs said Jimmy Stewart will be the leading figure from the world of entertainment to participants.

"I am really lost for words to thank the VFW for all the help this organization has given us," he said. "The individual members are the most wonderful people I have ever met in my life."

In introducing Scruggs, Commander-in-Chief Arthur J. Fellwack explained that the VFW wholeheartedly supported the campaign for the monument's erection because the VFW believed Vietnam veterans had not received the recognition due them because of their service in Southeast Asia.

He added that the VFW is opposed to the United States' getting into another war without fighting it to win. **VFW**



# Distinguished Guests Reception



Mrs. Lee Olson, Jr. Vice Commander-in-Chief Clifford G. Olson, Jr., Mrs. Thelma Cheatham, Quartermaster Gen. J. A. Cheatham



Gen. John Flynn, Mrs. Flynn



Past Commander-in-Chief Richard L. Roudebush.



Mrs. Isabelle Currie, Sr. Vice Commander-in-Chief James R. (Bob) Currie



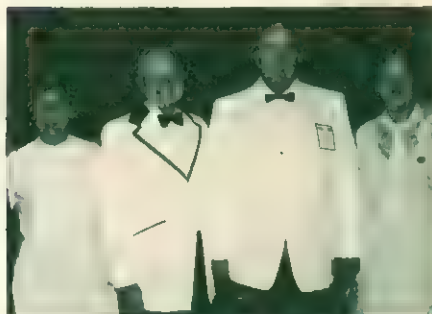
Commander-in-Chief Arthur J. Fellwock, Past Commander-in-Chief Robert Hansen.



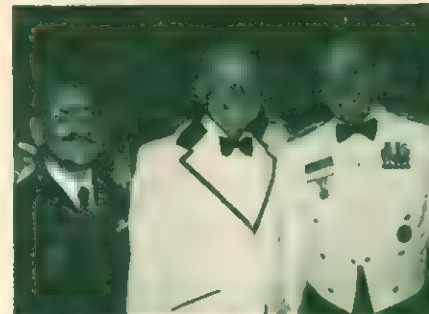
Quartermaster Gen J. A. Cheatham, Mrs. Red Skelton, Red Skelton, Mrs. Cheatham.



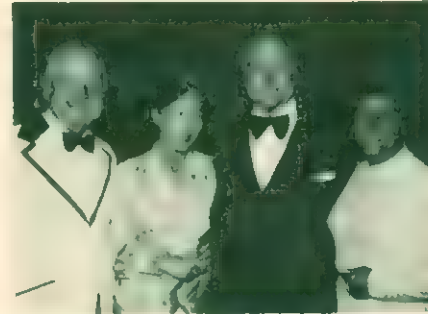
Commander-in-Chief Fellwock, Past Commanders-in-Chief Ted Connell and H. R. Rainwater



Mrs. Norma Fellwock, Commander-in-Chief Fellwock, Gen. Vernon A. Walters and Auxiliary President Marion Watson



Lt. Col. Barry H. Glick, Commander-in-Chief Fellwock, Col. Wilfred Ebel.



Commander-in-Chief Fellwock, Mrs. Skelton, Red Skelton, Mrs. Norma Fellwock

(See Distinguished Guests page 70)



# Levity Blended With Seriousness

The comedian provided them with a half-hour or so of hilarity, but then the general brought them back to the seriousness of the real world.

The comedian was Red Skelton. The general was Vernon A. Walters. The "them" were the more than 2,000 at the banquet of the 83rd National Convention at the Los Angeles Bonaventure Hotel, Aug. 16.

Skelton and Walters, a former CIA deputy director and adviser to Presidents, were singled out for two prestigious VFW honors at the dinner, the Americanism Award and the Dwight David Eisenhower Award, respectively.

Skelton's was specifically for the moving rendition of the Pledge of Allegiance, which he has made famous over the years, and Walters's for his "outstanding contributions to the cause of American security, unity and world peace."

Before beginning the humorous patter that has made Skelton one of America's most beloved comedians and after receiving the award, he told Commander-in-Chief Arthur J. Fellwock, "Thank you for believing I am worthy of such an award."

He related that recently he has been visiting college and university campuses and "when I say I believe America is the only country in the world, the students say this is the jet age, the computer age. 'I tell them, 'I know; my generation gave it to you.'"

He concluded his portion of the program with the Pledge of Allegiance delivered in his own, inimitable way and added:

"It is fine to have laughter without the use of four-letter words. It is fine to stand on the Constitution, but don't trample on it. I don't hate my enemies. I made them.

"If you remember this evening, then my purpose as a clown has been served."

Gen. Walters, in accepting his award, told Commander-in-Chief Fellwock that Skelton "is a hard act to follow," but went on to relate some of his experiences with Eisenhower when he was a Presidential adviser to illustrate the significance the award had for him.

"It is popular to say he was a good man, but he was truly a great man and his Presidency was marked by extraordinary years



*Gen. Walters receives Eisenhower Award from Commander-in-Chief Fellwock.*

of domestic quiet," Gen. Walters said.

Turning to the world scene, with which he has been vitally concerned for nearly a lifetime, Walters said the U.S. has a real problem in Central America, but the target is Mexico, which the Communists hope to destabilize to divert American attention from Europe and the Far East.

"Central America requires a lot of attention," he continued. "Free elections there will require a long educational process because most people there would not recognize one."

Discussing Nicaragua, he said the situation there is "tough."

"The Communists are in power and once Communism is in there is no way to get it out short of violence," he said. "Dictatorships have been replaced by democracy, but no one knows what would replace the Communists because they have never been replaced."

Walters said the U.S. had no other

choice except to support Britain in the Falklands War with Argentina "because we do not believe in the use of armed force to change borders."

As for aiding countries threatened by Communist subversion, Walters said the United States is in a more advantageous position than the Soviet Union because the Russians "can give only tanks and planes but they can't tell them how to grow food because they can't do it for themselves. Karl Marx was a city boy. He knew nothing about the land."

Walters said the Middle East is the most acute problem of all, but "if we can leave Lebanon alone, it will be restored."

"The PLO has a lot of friends, but no one wants to take them in when it comes to the crunch," he said.

Walters then brought up the problems of Africa, where the Cubans must get out of Angola and Libya is ruled by a man who should be in a mental hospital. He ranged over the world, to Europe, to Asia and to India and Pakistan, citing threats to world peace in all of them as a result of Soviet machinations.

"The greatest danger to the world is a miscalculation," he continued. "We will have the same problems with us 500 years from now, but I believe the values of all free countries will survive."

Tom Paterra, the singer, entertained with a wide variety of musical numbers before the program began. **WAV**



*Comedian Red Skelton is presented the Americanism Award by Commander-in-Chief Fellwock.*



ator Kassebaum's amendment to reduce defense programs by \$35.3 billion in FY 1983-85. VFW supported passage; passed 53-44. Fulfills VFW Resolutions No. 406, 422, 435.

7. S. Con. Res. 92 (Vote #152, Recorded 5/21/82), Senator Baker's motion to kill Senator Riegle's amendment to reduce defense programs by \$18.9 billion in FY 1983-85 and transfer those funds to domestic programs and deficit reduction. VFW supported passage; passed 61-30. Fulfills VFW Resolution No. 435.

### Veterans' Legislation

8. S. Con. Res. 9 (Vote #43, Recorded 3/26/81), an amendment by Senators Chiles and Sasser to restore previously cut funds to the VA budget for VA health care programs. VFW supported passage; rejected 44-56. Fulfills VFW Resolution No. 609; Priority Goal.

9. H. Con. Res. 115 (Vote #126, Recorded 5/21/81), adoption of the FY 1982 budget continuing most VA programs without reduction. VFW supported passage; passed 76-20. Fulfills VFW Resolution No. 609; Priority Goal.

10. HR 3499 (Vote #153, Recorded 6/16/81), provides for health care for herbicide and radiation-exposed veterans, business loans and readjustment appointment authority. VFW supported passage; passed 99-0. Fulfills VFW Resolutions No. 670, 714; Priority Goal.

11. HR 4034 (Vote #245, Recorded 7/30/81), establishing adequate spending levels for VA hospitals and programs. VFW supported passage; passed 87-6. Fulfills VFW Resolution No. 609; Priority Goal.

12. H. J. Res. 357 (Vote #414, Recorded 11/19/81), Senator Garn's motion to kill Senator DeConcini's amendment to disapprove the deferral containing suggestions to implement mainstreaming and vouchering out for veterans' health care and delaying several important VA hospital construction/improvement projects. VFW opposed passage; passed 58-39. Fulfills many VFW resolutions; Priority Goal.

13. S. Con. Res. 92 (Vote #134, Recorded 5/20/82), amendment of Senator Chiles to restore funding for compensation/pension increases, hospital care. VFW supported passage; rejected 46-53. Fulfills VFW Resolution No. 775; Priority Goal.

14. S. Con. Res. 92 (Vote #144, Recorded 5/21/82), Senator Simpson's motion to kill Senator DeConcini's amendment to provide full compensation increases for all service-connected veterans in 1983-85. VFW opposed passage; passed 49-45. Fulfills VFW Resolution No. 775; Priority Goal.

## Endorsements

The published voting record of every member of the Congress was studied by the Washington Office staff to determine how a member voted compared to the position taken by the mandates given to the VFW by the delegates to the National Convention.

Representatives and Senators up for reelection were rated "right" and "wrong" and their scores tallied. Those with a score of 60% "right" were endorsed. Names and "right" scores follow below and on pages 42, 50, 51 and 52.

## House of Representatives

### ALABAMA

District		% Right
(1)	Edwards	93
(2)	Dickinson	91
(3)	Nichols	100
(4)	Bevill	92
(5)	Flippo	92
(6)	Smith	92
(7)	Shelby	93

### ALASKA

District		% Right
AL	Young	100

### ARIZONA

District		% Right
(2)	Udall	69
(3)	Stump	83
(4)	Rudd	100

### ARKANSAS

District		% Right
(1)	Alexander	92
(2)	Bethune	93
(3)	Hammerschmidt	93
(4)	Anthony	93

### CALIFORNIA

District		% Right
(1)	Clausen	93
(2)	Chappie	86
(3)	Matsui	71
(4)	Fazio	64
(13)	Mineta	64
(14)	Shumway	86
(15)	Coelho	62
(16)	Panetta	64
(17)	Pashayan	73
(19)	Lagomarsino	93
(20)	Thomas	100
(21)	Fiedler	93
(22)	Moorhead	86
(30)	Rousselot	83
(32)	Anderson	71
(33)	Dreier	86
(35)	Lewis	86
(38)	Patterson	77
(39)	Dannemeyer	86
(40)	Badham	82
(41)	Lowery	93
(42)	Lungren	86
(45)	Hunter	93

### COLORADO

District		% Right
(5)	Kramer	93

### CONNECTICUT

District		% Right
(3)	De Nardis	64

### DELAWARE

District		% Right
AL	Evans	85

### FLORIDA

District		% Right
(1)	Hutto	100
(2)	Fuqua	100
(3)	Bennett	93
(4)	Chappell	100
(5)	McCollum	93
(7)	Gibbons	86
(8)	Young	100
(10)	Ireland	92
(11)	Nelson	100
(14)	Mica	86
(15)	Shaw	93
(18)	Pepper	60
(19)	Fascell	64

### GEORGIA

District		% Right
(2)	Hatcher	92
(4)	Levitas	93
(6)	Gingrich	92
(7)	McDonald	70
(9)	Jenkins	93
(10)	Barnard	92

### HAWAII

District		% Right
(2)	Akaka	71

### IDAHO

District		% Right
(1)	Craig	93
(2)	Hansen	79

(See VFW PAC page 42)



# Clifford G. Olson, Jr. Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief

Sr. Vice Commander-in-Chief Clifford G. Olson, Jr., of Mattapan, Mass., was elected to this office at the 83rd National Convention in Los Angeles.

A Past Department Commander of Massachusetts, 1978-79, he is a veteran of eight years' Navy service, which included the Korean War.

Olson was elected Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief by the National Council of Administration to fill a vacancy created by the death of then Commander-in-Chief T. C. Selman, and then was elected Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief by the 82nd National Convention.

Olson, 48, and a native of Boston, is responsible in private life for rail and track maintenance throughout the Greater Boston area for the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority.

Serving in the Navy from July 25, 1951 to July 25, 1959, he was in Patrol Squadron



CLIFFORD G. OLSON



7 that provided air cover for the 7th Fleet and carried out anti-submarine patrols, weather reconnaissance and sorties over Korea.

Since joining Post 8699 in Mattapan, Olson was named All State Post Commander in 1964 and 1965, All American District Commander from Massachusetts's Suffolk District 1 in 1971 and 1972 and an All American Department Commander in 1978 and 1979.

Olson is currently serving on a committee on veterans affairs for Rep. Brian Donnelly (Mass.).

Mr. and Mrs. Olson have four children, James, a graduate of the Massachusetts Maritime Academy; John, a veteran of the Navy attending the University of Massachusetts; Joseph, also a student at the University of Massachusetts, and a daughter, Jean Marie, who is in high school. **VFW**

# Billy Ray Cameron Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief

Billy Ray Cameron, of Sanford, N.C., was elected Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States at the 83rd National Convention in Los Angeles.

Cameron, born Feb. 6, 1944, in Sanford, is the first Vietnam veteran to be selected for a top National VFW leadership office.

He served with the U.S. Marine Corps in the Southeast Asia war zone from August, 1967, to March, 1968, in the Da Nang area of Vietnam.

While a member of the 1st Division, he received two meritorious combat promotions and became a squad leader. He earned the Purple Heart with Oak Leaf Cluster for wounds suffered in combat.

Since July 1, 1971, Cameron has been employed with the Sanford-Lee County Office of Civil Preparedness as a coordinator.

A graduate of Oak Hill Academy High School at Mouth of Wilson, Va., he attended Wingate Junior College and North Carolina State College following his wartime military service.

Cameron, who first joined the VFW



BILLY RAY CAMERON



while in a hospital bed at Camp Lejeune, N.C., has been a member of VFW Post 5631 in Sanford since 1968 where he won honors as an All American Post Commander in 1973. He went on to become an All American Department of North Carolina Commander in 1975. Additionally, he was elected to the National Council of Administration in August, 1977.

In 1972, Cameron won the title of North Carolina Disabled Veteran of the Year. In 1976, Gov. James E. Holshouser, Jr., appointed him to the North Carolina Veterans Commission for a four-year term. He was reappointed by Gov. James B. Hunt, Jr. He served as the chairman of the North Carolina Veterans Council in 1976-77.

Other fraternal and civic organizations he is a member of include the Masons, the American Legion, the Disabled American Veterans, the Optimist Club, the Elks and the Moose.

Married to the former Jeanette Gilliam, of Sanford, he and his wife have a son, Edward, and a daughter, Leah. The family are members of the Cameron Hill Presbyterian Church. **VFW**



## National Headquarters

Veterans of Foreign Wars  
of the United States

General Orders No. 1

1982-83 Series

1. Having been elected Commander-in-Chief and having been installed in office in accordance with the By-Laws of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, I hereby assume command.
2. The following officers having been duly elected and installed by the 83rd National Convention will be accorded the recognition due them: Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Clifford G. Olson, Jr., Post 8699, Boston, Mass.; Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief Billy Ray Cameron, Post 5631, Sanford, N.C.; Quartermaster General J. A. Cheatham, Post 869, Kansas City, Kans.; Judge Advocate General James C. McKee, Post 409, Salt Lake City, Utah; Surgeon General Dr. Philip J. Begley, Post 1178, Harlan, Ky.; National Chaplain Father Austin J. Henry, Post 1318, Madison, Wis.; National Council of Administration District No. 2, Stanley G. Powell, Post 9991, Bridgeport Conn.; District No. 4, Paul R. Phillips, Jr., Post 2863, Richardson Park, Del.; District No. 6, Lawrence Henderson, Post 5484, Providence, Ky.; District No. 8, Julian Brisendine, Post 5290, Conyers, Ga.; District No. 10, Herman Charles Phillips, Post 5225, W. Memphis, Ark.; District No. 12, Paul Jolovich, Post 10105, Dayton, Wyo.; District No. 14, Donald E. Sears, Post 889, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho; District No. 16, Donald O. Webster, Post 9957, Taipei, Taiwan; District D, Thomas E. Dudzik, Post 1613, Martins Ferry, Ohio; District E, Robert Larson, Post 6206, Menasha, Minn.; and District H, Mel Stanley, Post 1815, San Angelo, Texas.
3. All previous appointments having expired are declared null and void.
4. The following appointments approved by the National Council of Administration are hereby announced: Adjutant General Howard E. Vander Clute, Jr., Post 8946, Woodliff Lake, N.J.; Chief of Staff Roger Sellers, Post 6654, DeSoto, Kans.; Inspector General Ralph E. Rohwedder, Post 5926, Moses Lake, Wash.; Assistant Adjutant General and Executive Director, Washington Office Cooper T. Holt, Post 1299, Chattanooga, Tenn.; Assistant Adjutant General, Administrative Edward I. Bircham, Post 1721, Williamstown, Conn.; Assistant Adjutant General, Programs Curtis M. Jewell, Post 1090, Warren, Ohio; Assistant Quartermaster General Herbert W. Irwin, Post 4789, Lees Summit, Mo.; Director, Public Relations John Voss, Post 181, Omaha, Neb.; Director, Publications John L. Smith, Post 1391, Racine, Wis.; Director, Americanism and Community Activities Raymond N. Price, Post 8100, Grandview, Mo.; Director, Buddy Poppy & Safety Charles D. Bishop, Post 9762, Kansas City, Mo.; Director Membership W. Benny Bachand, Post 4287, Orlando, Fla.; Director, Post and Program Development John Senk, Post 335, Cranford, N.J.; Director, Post Records and Inspection Robert G. Bethel, Post 5289, Pawnee City, Neb.; Director, Voice of Democracy and Youth Activities Lawrence LeFebvre, Post 552, Lincoln Park, Mich.; National Service Officer & Director, Veterans Service Frederick Juarbe, Jr., Post 401, Albuquerque, N.M.; Assistant Director, National Veterans Service Fred A. Von Rembow, Post 8493, Omro, Wis.; Director, National Legislative Service Donald H. Schwab, Post 3150, Arlington, Va.; Director, National Security & Foreign Affairs Frank Phelps Jones, Post 3150, Arlington, Va.; Director, Public Affairs, Washington Office Thorne H. Marlow, Post 3152, Kernersville, N.C.; Director, Emblem and Supply Department James Bowden, Post 869, Kansas City, Kans.; Director, Purchasing and Life Membership Joe Ridgely, Post 1000, Independence, Mo.; Director, Insurance Programs Wayne Rum, Post 6852, Des Moines, Iowa; Director, Insurance Programs Robert Crow, Post 4027, Mount Vernon, Ohio; Director, General Services William E. Rafiner, Post 7900, Kansas City, Mo.; Director, VFW Properties—Kansas City Roy Shedd, Post 846, Overland Park, Kans.; Director, VFW Properties Washington D.C. William Callaghan, Post 5627, College Park, Md.; Director, National Convention Arthur J. Vater, Post 5254, Buffalo, N.Y.; National Sergeant-at-Arms Leopold R. Malyszko, Post 1046, Brockton, Mass.; National Band and Drum Corps Committee Chairman J. Robert Brady, Post 7090, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Editor, VFW Magazine James K. Anderson, Post 1794, Mt. Clemens, Mich.; and Assistant Director, General Services Richard Burchfield, Post 5851, Kansas City, Kans.
5. THROUGH CHANNELS Post Commanders, County Council Commanders and District Commanders are directed to forward all resolutions or communications relative to FEDERAL LEGISLATION OR TO THE POLICY OR PROCEDURE OF THE U.S. VETERANS ADMINISTRATION, OR ANY OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY, to their respective Department Headquarters for endorsement and referral to the Adjutant General Department Commanders will not take direct action on any such resolutions or communications without first obtaining full knowledge of existing National Headquarters policies governing such legislation or agencies.
6. Invitations to National Officers must be forwarded through channels to the Adjutant General with approval of the Department Commander. This applies to all National Officers, and unless the above is complied with, invitations will not be given consideration.
7. DEPARTMENT RESERVE Attention is called to Section 517, Manual of Procedure, that requires Department Quartermasters maintain a dues reserve fund to which shall be credited not less than fifty percent (50%) of all current years (1981) dues that he receives prior to July 1, 1983. No Department Quartermaster shall disburse nor shall an obli-

(See General Orders page 46)

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*Sr. Vice Commander-in-Chief Clifford G. Olson, Jr., and Jr. Vice Commander-in-Chief Billy Ray Cameron join hands with Commander-in-Chief James R. (Bob) Currieo after their election and installation on the Convention's final day.*

## 83RD NATIONAL CONVENTION

# Pride in Service

By James K. Anderson

**A** renewed commitment to even wider service to veterans, a continuing membership growth to heighten the VFW's leverage in gaining broadened veterans' rights and entitlements and a firm resolve to support action for a national defense second to none highlighted the 83rd National Convention in Los Angeles, Aug. 13 to 19.

At the conclusion of the Convention, the more than 17,000 registered delegates elected Sr. Vice Commander-in-Chief James R. (Bob) Currieo, of Sierra Vista, Ariz., Commander-in-Chief, succeeding Commander-in-Chief Arthur J. Fellwock, of Evansville, Ind.

Jr. Vice Commander-in-Chief Clifford G. Olson, Jr., of Mattapan, Mass., was moved up to the office of Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief and is expected to become Commander-in-Chief at the 84th National Convention.

Chosen Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief was Billy Ray Cameron, of Sanford, N.C., the first Vietnam veteran to be elected to a major National office and the first North Carolinian to be elected to one

since 1939.

Quartermaster Gen. J.A. Cheatham, of Shawnee Mission, Kans., was reelected and Adjutant Gen. Howard E. Vander Clute, Jr., was reappointed to his office.

Other officers elected included James C. McKee, of Salt Lake City, Utah, Judge Advocate General; Dr. Philip J. Begley, of Harlan, Ky., Surgeon General and the Rev. Austin J. Henry, of Madison, Wis., National Chaplain. Appointed Chief of Staff was Roger Sellers, of DeSoto, Kans., and named Inspector General was Ralph Rohwedder, of Moses Lake, Wash.

Although President Ronald Reagan was forced to cancel his planned appearance at the Convention's Joint Opening Session, Aug. 16, at the Los Angeles Convention Center, he was represented by William P. Clark, his national security adviser and former California State Supreme Court justice.

Clark promised that budgetary belt-tightening would not be at the expense of compromising the safety and security "of our men and women in the armed forces."

The controversial Soviet gas pipeline to

Western Europe could be built with American technology, he said, if the Soviets would end their repression of Poland and not use "Gulag prisoners" in its construction.

"This is not the time to give the Soviets more hard currency so they can channel it into their defenses," he continued.

Comparing the U.S. ban on American technology for the pipeline with the sale of grain to the Soviet Union, Clark said this is a fallacious argument because the wheat is sold on a cash basis.

As for a freeze on nuclear weapons, Clark said this would guarantee Soviet superiority over the United States.

Clark praised the VFW for its wide range of community and veterans' service programs, citing them as examples of the Reagan Administration's desire to encourage the American people to do more to aid others.

On veterans' entitlements, Clark said, "No one is giving you anything. Veterans have earned everything they have received." He pledged the Administration





*Solemn patriotic ceremonies conducted by the National Honor Guard mark the opening of the 83rd National Convention.*

would assure that veterans' health care will not be compromised."

Clark also expressed President Reagan's congratulations to Charlton Heston for the VFW Citizenship Award presented for his stand in opposing Ed Asner's position as Screen Actors Guild president in supporting the guerrillas in El Salvador.

The Convention was opened by Past Commander Joseph Borello, of the Department of California and chairman of the Convention board of directors, who introduced Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley.

"You epitomize the courage of our people," Bradley told the delegates.

Greetings were also extended by a representative of Gov. Edmund G. Brown, B.T. Collings, his chief of staff, and Harry A. Marlow, on behalf of the county government.

Fellwock presented Auxiliary President Marion Watson with the VFW Gold Medal of Merit for her and the Auxiliary's assistance in achieving VFW goals for 1981-82.

Supreme Commander William E. Bryce, of the Military Order of the Cootie, reviewed the work done by the VFW's honor degree organization on behalf of hospitalized veterans and predicted next year would see an expansion of this effort.

In accepting the News Media Award from Fellwock, Mrs. Helen K. Copley, head of the Copley newspaper group, said her late husband, James, once honored by the VFW, too, considered his newspapers a public service and "I retain that philosophy with fervor."

George Schlatter and the television program he produces, "Real People," received the VFW Gold Medal of Merit for depicting veterans and the role they have played in defending the country in a positive light.

For her work in making the Special Olympics for the nation's retarded a success, Mrs. Eunice Kennedy Shriver was presented with the VFW Hall of Fame Award.

"The VFW has a special place in my heart," Mrs. Shriver said, recalling the assistance the organization provided her

VFW Gold Medal of Merit.

Nationalist Chinese Gen. Cheng Wei-yuan, chairman of the Vocational Assistance Commission for Retired Servicemen of the Republic of China on Taiwan, and Gen. Chong Hwan Kim, president of the Korean Veterans Association, denounced Communist rule on Mainland China and North Korea, respectively, urged the United States to continue support for their two countries and thanked the VFW for its concern with their problems.

Monday evening at the Convention  
(See *Pride in Service* page 28)



*Newly-elected and appointed National Officers take their oath of office as the 83rd National Convention draws to a conclusion.*

late brother, President John F. Kennedy, after he returned home from World War II service, and praising it for the aid given the Special Olympics.

"Before the Special Olympics, the retarded were never tested for skills, capacity for joy or courage or generosity," she said.

Accepting the Citizenship Award, Heston said, "I do not regard Ed Asner as an evil man or a bad man, but in running the Screen Actors Guild, he insisted it is his right to speak out on controversial issues, a right we share with few others on earth."

The Space Award to the astronauts of the Columbia Space Shuttle was accepted by Navy Capt. Thomas K. Mattingly III, who said, "I wish there was some way I could describe the spectacle of flying in space. Hollywood could never do justice to it."

In recognition of his work for a resolution to the issue of the American prisoners and missing in Southeast Asia, retired Air Force Lt. Gen. John Flynn, the senior former POW and chairman of the VFW POW/MIA Subcommittee, received the



*President Reagan's national security adviser, William P. Clark, pinch-bits for him as the keynote speaker.*

# Pride in Service

(Continued from page 27)

banquet, comedian Red Skelton was presented with the Americanism Award for his famous rendition of the Pledge of Allegiance and retired Lt. Gen. Vernon A. Walters, a former CIA deputy director and adviser to several Presidents, received the Dwight David Eisenhower Award.

Honored at the second session, Tuesday, Aug. 17, were Edward D. McCarthy, an Arvada, Colo., police officer, with the VFW J. Edgar Hoover Award; the four Navy pilots who shot down two Libyan planes last year while the Navy was on maneuvers in the Mediterranean, with the VFW Armed Forces Award, and Newsweek Magazine the VFW Certificate of Appreciation, accepted by Stryker McGuire, its Houston bureau chief, for its articles on "Charlie Company" that put Vietnam veterans in a positive light.

The four Navy officers were Cmdr. Henry Kleemann, Lt. James Anderson, Lt. Lawrence Muczynski and Lt. David Venlet.

Speaking on behalf of the group, Kleemann said, "We are one country, one service and we are all together. Without the effort and skill of men who serviced our planes, what we did would not have been possible."

McGuire said the award to Newsweek was "especially significant as it comes from the VFW."

He said several of the Vietnam veterans he and other Newsweek writers and reporters interviewed had not talked about their experiences in Vietnam for as

long as 10 years "because no one had asked them."

"Thank you on behalf of the men who ultimately made this possible, the men of 'Charlie Company,'" McGuire said.

Jerry Yates, who heads veterans and service groups liaison for the Vietnam Veterans Leadership Program, a federal project in which Vietnam and other veterans aid Vietnam veterans, told of its goals.

"We in the VFW have known for years the leadership ability of Vietnam veterans," he said.

"We want veterans to step forward and help some of our brothers who have lingering problems. We will be established in 50 communities and we will study what the greatest needs are in each one.

*Mrs. Elizabeth Dole, Presidential assistant for public liaison, praises the VFW for its achievements on behalf of veterans.*



*Jerry Yates explains the veterans-helping-veterans concept of the government's Vietnam Veterans Leadership Program.*

"We want to show the American people what a Vietnam veteran is, to know the Vietnam veteran is proud of his Vietnam service and that VFW members share that pride, to realize that the Vietnam veterans are not to be pitied or treated as victims and to affirm the integrity of military service."

Yates asked that VFW members, even Commander-in-Chief Arthur J. Fellwock receives a memento of his leadership year from Dr. Frances Forde Plude, VFW National Home President.





those who are not Vietnam veterans, come forward and help with the program in their communities.

The principal speaker at the Tuesday session was Mrs. Elizabeth Dole, assistant to President Reagan for public liaison, who said, "We want our children to inherit a world at peace, where no one rattles a sword and no one drags a chain..."

"Perhaps no audience in America better understands the distinction between defensive and offensive weapons. Surely none has been more generous in its support for an America whose defense is adequate to her needs. For you understand that great nations must shoulder responsibilities. They must be willing to spend dollars for defense unless they want to spill blood on battlefields again. You understand the difference between outlaws and the law-abiding—not only in our own neighborhoods but in the global community. You understand strength as a deterrent to wrongdoers. And you have never hesitated to go public with that realistic assessment of the dangerous world in which we live."

On Wednesday morning, Aug. 18, a delegation from the VFW National Home at Eaton Rapids, Mich., including this year's Buddy Poppy Girl, Wendy Renee Striegel, Dr. Frances Forde Plude, Home president, and Dr. Theodore Wilson III, the executive director, who outlined improvements in the Home's activities.

Past Commander-in-Chief Richard Roudebush, chairman of the Veterans Life Insurance Co., presented the VFW with a check for \$2,500, which Sr. Vice Commander-in-Chief James R. (Bob) Currieo said would be placed in the VFW Bob Hope USO Fund.

Commander-in-Chief Fellwock received an award from Clifton E. Simmons, Boy Scouts' director of community relations, in recognition of the organization's sponsorship of Boy Scout activities.

In the session's principal speech, VA Administrator Robert P. Nimmo said he would ask President Reagan and Congress for more money for a large number of VA programs and accused what he called "liberals" in the press of attacking him in what possibly might be an attempt to erode confidence in the nation's institutions and leaders.

A short time before Nimmo addressed the delegates, a resolution was adopted calling on President Reagan to reprimand him for statements he made denigrating veterans and their military service.

His comments to the delegates were attacked afterward by Washington Office Executive Director Cooper T. Holt and Fellwock.

Before the election and installations on

Thursday, Aug. 19, Fellwock presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Felix A. Von Magnus, Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms, for his nearly 20 years' service to the organization, which included recruitment of 5,000 members. Aug. 21 was his 76th birthday.

Mayor Pete Wilson, of San Diego, Republican candidate for the U.S. Senate, called for a strong national defense and promised to work toward this goal if he is sent to the Senate.



*This year's Buddy Poppy Girl, Wendy Renee Striegel, a National Home resident, meets Sr. Vice Commander-in-Chief James R. (Bob) Currieo.*



*Quartermaster Gen. J.A. Cbeatham and Sr. Vice Commander-in-Chief James R. (Bob) Currieo accept a \$2,500 check for the USO Bob Hope Center from Past Commander-in-Chief Richard L. Roudebush on behalf of Veterans Life Insurance Co., of which he is chairman.*



*Commander-in-Chief Arthur J. Fellwock pins a visitor's badge on lapel of Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley before he welcomes delegates to the city.*

# Persistence Pays Off

BY HOWARD SILBER

**W**hen James R. (Bob) Currieo was elected Commander-in-Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States at the 83rd National Convention in Los Angeles last August, he selected a motto to guide and inspire himself and his 1,950,000 fellow VFW members during his year as their leader:

"Strength Through Service."

The motto exemplifies Bob Currieo the man.

He has served his country faithfully and well. And he has grown strong in that service.

A high school dropout, he has achieved success in life in the fullest meaning of that word.

A high school dropout, yes, but this man who left his 10th grade classroom in Bartlesville, Okla., to join the Army during the Korean War rose quickly to the rank of sergeant major.

When he left the Army after 22 years, he went directly to college. Today he stands a mere six credit hours short of achieving the degree of master of education.

Strength through service. Strength through determination. Strength through stamina. Strength through persistence.

Bob Currieo, was born in Denver, Colo., the son of a country doctor's daughter and a restaurant man. He grew up in Oklahoma.

His mother, Mrs. Lake Ann Taylor, now of Scottsdale, Ariz., says of her son:

"He was 'the ideal boy'—very considerate, always good to everybody, very protective of the underdog.

"I'm not being a mother who is trying to paint a glowing picture of her son. He really was ideal. He was responsible and truthful at all times."

The ideal boy became a man very quickly in a faraway country in which the United States took a firm stand against the march of Communism.

Currieo served with the 3rd Infantry Division's artillery—in 50-caliber machine guns and anti-aircraft weapons. He spent 13 months in the Korea battle zone before being rotated back to the United States, where he wound up with the 2nd Infantry Division at Fort Lewis, Wash.

There he made two decisions that would direct the course of his life.

The first—not necessarily the more important—was his selection of the Army as his career.

"I liked the Army, and it seemed to like me," he said. "I went from private to sergeant first class in the first three years. It seemed to be the perfect place for me. I reenlisted for six years and I don't believe I have ever regretted it. After six more years, I was a career soldier."

The second decision was to woo and wed Isabelle Pachbe, a nurse's aide he had met on a date while at Fort Lewis. Isabelle, who was born in Wapato, Wash., a tiny town south of Walla Walla, is a Native American. Her father was a member of the Yakima Tribe and her mother came from the Colville Tribe.

The marriage has been a true partnership. Isabelle readily accepted the role of service wife. She accompanied the non-commissioned officer to Wiesbaden in West Germany and to Army posts in the United States where Currieo's skill as a teacher was becoming more and more apparent. She worked for the Army as a civilian and found time to raise their two adopted children, James and Denita, both of whom have Navajo Indian blood.

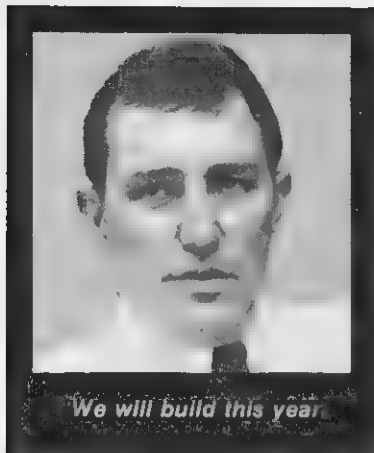
When the future Commander-in-Chief became active in the VFW, his wife took an active role in the Auxiliary. She has served the Auxiliary with distinction and has been honored as Department President of the Year.

Currieo became an intelligence expert in the Army. He taught in the Combat Surveillance School at Fort Huachuca, Ariz., and at the Signal School at Fort Monmouth, N.J., where he was promoted to chief instructor of the radar division and, later, to chief instructor of all the courses for enlisted personnel. After he returned to Fort Huachuca for what turned out to be his terminal assignment,



*After his election, Commander-in-Chief James R. Currieo poses with his family. They are his son, James; daughter, Denita; his parents, James A. Currieo and Mrs. Lake Ann Taylor, and his wife Isabelle. The elder Currieo is a member of his son's home Post 9972. His mother, wife and daughter belong to its Auxiliary.*





he became the chief instructor of the Combat Surveillance School.

At Fort Monmouth and later at Fort Huachuca, Currieo wore as many stripes as a soldier's arm can carry. He was a sergeant major. And when he was promoted to that rank in 1967 at 33, he was the youngest sergeant major in the United States Army.

As the musical "Oklahoma," named for the state where he grew up, puts it, he "had gone about as far as he could go" in the Army by 1973.

He had climbed the professional ladder and he had been honored in the civilian world with his selection by the Arizona Junior Chamber of Commerce as one of the Outstanding Young Men of 1967.

After 22 years in uniform, Bob Currieo retired. He, Isabelle and their children settled in Sierra Vista, near Fort Huachuca.

The future VFW leader wanted more education for himself. He had obtained a high school diploma in the Army but, as an enlisted man, was not eligible for the "Bootstrap" program leading to a university degree. The GI Bill of Rights and his own determination put him through college.

At 39, Currieo became a full-time student at Cochise Community College in Sierra Vista. After a year and a half, he transferred to the University of Arizona and for two years made the 140-mile round trip between Sierra Vista and Tucson five times a week. He was graduated in 1977 with the degree of bachelor of arts in education.

Again, the Army was waiting for Currieo. Immediately upon graduation he was hired as a civilian instructor at Fort Huachuca.

As he looks back, Currieo feels that his maturity and Army experience helped him in college.

"College was the only direction I could take," he said. "If I were to do anything

worthwhile beyond retirement from the Army, I would have to have a college education. It was much easier in college at 39 than if I had been 19 or 20. I didn't feel awkward because I was older than my classmates. All of us had the same objective—an education. My Army background made college much more interesting for me."

During his three and one-half years in college, Currieo managed to find time to



*Post 9972, Sierra Vista, Ariz., has hit it big this year. Commander-in-Chief James R. Currieo is a member. So are, right to left, Department Commander Francis H. J. MacDonnell and Arizona District 7 Commander Allen F. Kent. Posing with them shortly after Currieo's election is Post Commander Henry L. Hart, left.*

serve the VFW.

Sierra Vista Post 9972 was just four years old when he joined in 1962. Its membership was predominantly military.

"As most new members are, I was reluctant to get involved," he recalled. "I balked when they asked me to attend a Post meeting and be initiated. I just didn't want to go.

"But, when I got there, I found that 15 or 18 people were being initiated at the

same time. I knew some of them.

"The initiation ceremony was very impressive. It made a lasting impression on me. Friends, people I worked with, were conducting the ceremony. They believed in the VFW. And, immediately, I believed."

Two years later, Currieo was elected Post Commander. His two terms were highly successful, and he was named All State Commander each time. He subsequently became Arizona's Department Judge Advocate and District 5 Commander and was elected State Junior Vice Commander. In 1972-73, Currieo was Arizona's All American Department Commander.

Even before he was Department Commander, he had set his sights much higher.

"I made up my mind during the National Convention in Minneapolis in 1971 that, if I was good enough, I would work to become Commander-in-Chief of the VFW," Currieo said.

"We had left our children with friends in Omaha, and we were driving back there from Minneapolis when I turned to Isabelle and told her:

"Well, I think I'll run for Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief. I had the gut feeling that I could make it. But, I guess Isabelle wasn't prepared for it. She was about ready to throw me out of the car."

With Isabelle's support, Currieo has achieved his goal.

The tall, handsome ex-GI said he regards his position as VFW Commander-in-Chief "as a sacred trust that has been given to me for 12 months to carry on the tremendous work of those I follow as leaders of this great organization.

"We will build this year on the sturdy foundation that I have inherited. We will build higher and bigger. We will become stronger through our service to the veteran. Truly, it will be:

"Strength Through Service." **VFW**

# 'Reprimand Nimmo, Mr. President'—VFW Says

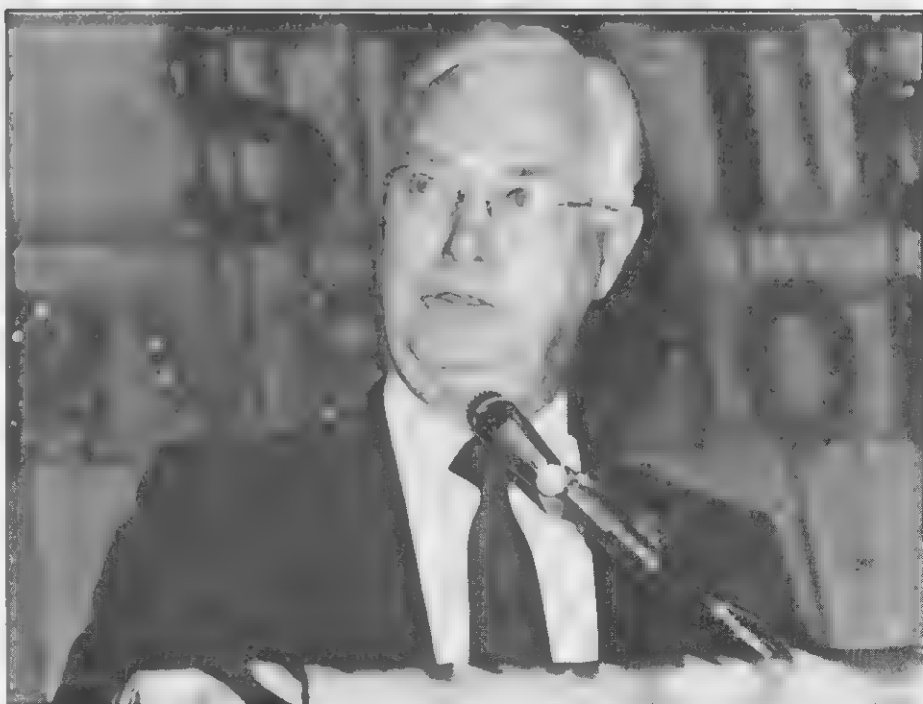
If he had walked in a little sooner, VA Administrator Robert P. Nimmo would have heard delegates to the 83rd National VFW Convention unanimously adopt Resolution 779 calling on President Ronald Reagan to reprimand him for public comments critical of veterans' benefits and making slurs on veterans themselves.

The action was taken on Wednesday, Aug. 18, at the Los Angeles Bonaventure Hotel.

Although the delegates adopted the reprimand resolution, they agreed with the recommendation of the Committee on National Veterans Service and rejected two resolutions calling for Nimmo's ouster as VA head.

Following is the text of Resolution 779 voted by the Convention:

WHEREAS, the Administrator of Veterans Affairs is perceived by virtue of his office to be the advocate of all veterans; and





WHEREAS, in his capacity as the highest ranking official in the Executive Branch of the government charged with the responsibility of providing unbiased and objective delivery of statutory entitlements to veterans, their dependents and survivors; and

WHEREAS, the incumbent Administrator has been repeatedly cited for statements that denigrate the veteran and undermine and publicly question the worth of certain benefits for veterans enacted by Congress in its wisdom; and

WHEREAS, notwithstanding Administrator Nimmo's insistence that his statements are taken out of context by the media or that remarks attributed to him are not true or were innocently or carelessly uttered; and

WHEREAS, Commander-in-Chief Arthur J. Fellwock, during his testimony before the House and Senate Veterans Affairs Committees in March, 1982, expressed grave concern regarding the Administrator's apparent negative attitude; and

WHEREAS, the White House communicated to the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States that the Administrator had no business expressing such views and the practice would be stopped; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, by the 83rd National Convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that since the Administrator persists in being indiscreet in his public utterances, the President of the United States must reprimand Administrator Nimmo and offer assurance that any recurrence will lead to deeper corrective measures.

In his remarks, Nimmo said he would seek from the President and Congress more money for the VA's 1984 budget to enable it to expand its medical research, construction and operations.

He said out-patient clinics "are the wave of the future and we can do in them what we used to do in acute care hospitals."

As for Agent Orange, the herbicide some Vietnam veterans contend has caused their cancer, deformities in their children and other ailments, Nimmo said,



Cooper T. Holt, rebutting some of Nimmo's remarks, declared "we are not going to put up with that from him or anybody else." Holt is Washington Office Executive Director.

"We are trying our best to find the answer."

Nimmo added that when he joined the VA last year, "Agent Orange research was unpopular in the agency and funds were being siphoned off to other activities."

This year, however, \$5 million is available for studies of the herbicide and \$7 million will be allocated for them in the next fiscal year, he continued. Thirty studies "are in being or on the boards," he said, adding, "We are treating every Vietnam veteran who thinks he was exposed to it."

Vietnam veteran counselling has been expanded from 100 centers to 130 with more to come and the proof of the center's acceptance by Vietnam veterans can be seen in the greater caseload, he said.

Although the VA did not get all it wanted in the recent federal budget, Nimmo said "the VA fared better than any other agency except the Department of Defense."

"You can rely on Congress," he said. "It is not going to desert you any more than the President or I am going to desert you," he continued.

Turning to published allegations of abusing the perks of his office, Nimmo admitted spending \$45,000 to \$54,000 on refurbishing the 10th floor executive area of the VA Central Office in Washington.

"It was unfit for people to run one of the largest agencies of government," he said. "I cleaned it up and did what I thought had to be done."

As for the charge that he used a government car and driver to take him to and from work, Nimmo said he reimbursed the government \$6,410 for the driver's overtime from his own personal funds and his wife now drives him in their family car.

"What troubles me are the charges that I am callous and don't care about veterans or that I said Vietnam veterans are pampered and I don't want no-legged people around me. I never used these expressions at any time and never will."

He attributed these reports to "liberals" in the news media who want to erode confidence in public officials.

"I want to reaffirm my commitment and the President's commitment to the integrity of the medical care system and to the array of benefits that will be there when you need them," he declared.

"The leadership of this organization and I will differ," he continued. "My responsibility is somewhat different, but both of us are involved in the care of veterans."

Later in a press conference, Nimmo said he regretted that comments he has made were misinterpreted because he respects all persons who have served the nation.

In a fiery speech, Cooper T. Holt, joined by Commander-in-Chief Arthur J. Fellwock, declared:

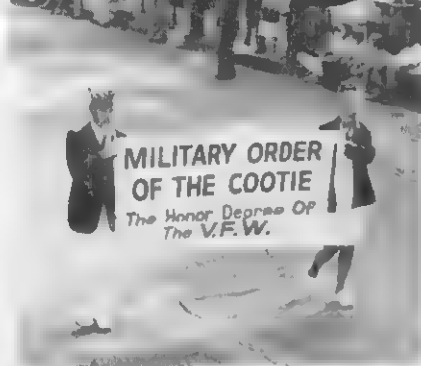
"I feel as Director of your Washington Office that I have a mandate to speak out against anybody who tries to put veterans in the category of other social welfare programs and I will continue to do so."

"Also before the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, Nimmo was asked his opinion about the veteran and he used a statement to the effect that the man who served his country in time of war was merely carrying out a citizenship responsibility and that our service to our country was only a matter of inconvenience."

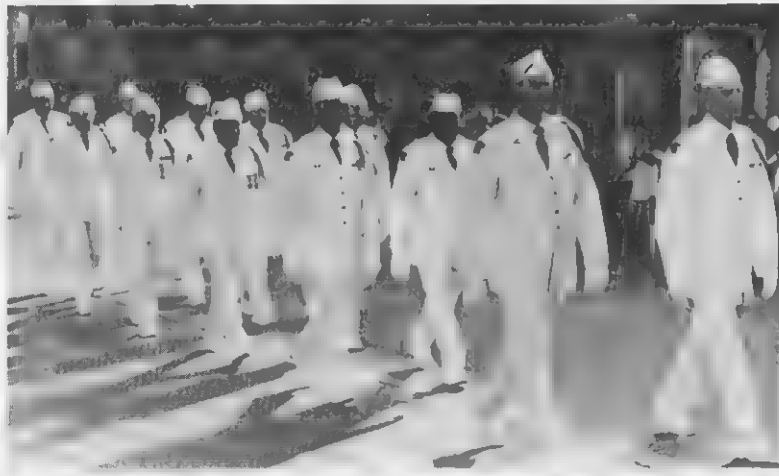
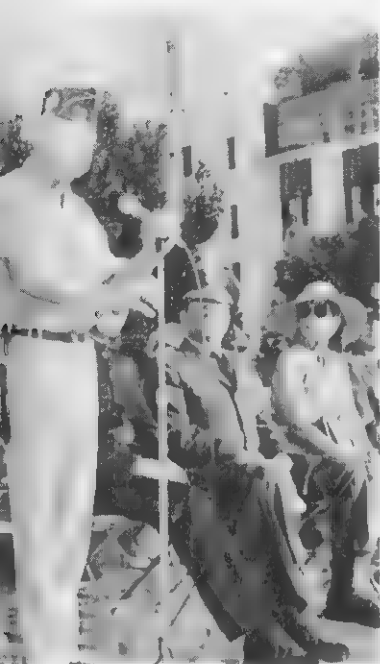
"My friends, we are not going to put up with that from him or anybody else."

In his acceptance remarks upon election as Commander-in-Chief James R. (Bob) Currie took Nimmo to task for such remarks.

VA Administrator Robert P. Nimmo addresses Convention delegates.









Past Commanders-in-Chief from the West join in congratulating Arizona's Commander-in-Chief James R. (Bob) Currieo, third from right. They are Eric Sandstrom, H. R. Rainwater, John Stang, John Maban and Leslie Fry.



## HOMEcoming

# CHIEF COMES HOME

**T**o the strains of "Thanks for the Memories" as rendered by the 36th Army Band from Fort Huachuca, every veteran's favorite entertainer, Bob Hope, was escorted into the grand ballroom of the Doubletree Inn, in Tucson, Ariz., to kick off the testimonial dinner honoring newly elected Commander-in-Chief Bob Currieo.

The Currieo homecoming weekend festivities got underway Friday, Sept. 2, and ran through Sept. 5. There was golf for the aging athletes, sightseeing trips to Nogales, Mexico; the Arizona-Sonora desert museum, Old Tucson, the famous movie location set, and many other points of interest in the Tucson area.

On Friday evening, Sept. 3, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4903 hosted a gala western barbecue. Following the "feed" there was a presentation of gifts to the new Commander-in-Chief, belly dancers performed and more than 500 guests finished up their gala evening by dancing the night away.

All of this was a fitting preliminary to the grande finale which was a fun-filled yet distinguished banquet where many people paid tribute to Bob Currieo and his wife Isabelle.

The 36th Army Band set the evening's mood with a heart-warming patriotic presentation of music and pictures. This was followed by the moving entrance into the ballroom by Commander-in-Chief Bob and the other Bob—Bob Hope. During dinner Tom Paterra, the lead singer for the Fred Waring orchestra, entertained with a number of popular favorites and patriotic songs.

Bob Hope wowed the 500 guests with a continuous string of one-liners that kept the crowd roaring throughout. But never did the noted comedian forget the evening's purpose was to honor Bob Currieo and all the men who served in the nation's armed forces. Interspersed with the jokes were serious tributes to veterans who fought so the country could remain free.

Following Hope's remarks, the Commander-in-Chief presented the entertainer with a check for \$90,000 as part of the VFW and Ladies Auxiliary \$500,000 commitment to the Bob Hope USO center in Washington, D.C. National President Florence Taylor followed with a check for \$25,000 on behalf of the Auxiliary.

"Additionally, the VFW National Council of Administration has made another commitment of \$100,000—all of







*Sr. Vice Commander-in-Chief Clifford G. Olson shakes hands with Commander-in-Chief James R. (Bob) Currieo at his homecoming celebration. In the center is Jr. Vice Commander-in-Chief Billy Ray Cameron.*



*Adjutant Gen. Howard E. Vander Clute welcomes Mrs. Isabelle Currieo to the podium.*



this money designated to fund the reception hall of the Bob Hope USO Center and World Headquarters in Washington, D.C.," Currieo said.

Currieo said he was dedicating the Homecoming banquet to all the 1.95 million members of the VFW who work so hard for the organization in America's grass roots.

Sen. Dennis DeConcini also was on hand to pay tribute to the honoree and the VFW for all that both have done on behalf of the nation's veterans through "their tireless efforts in the halls of Congress." He lauded the VFW for "always placing our national interests first." He praised Bob Currieo for "speaking out with courage" not only for those things that affect veterans' entitlements, but also national defense.

Others on hand to pay tribute to Bob were Richard Countryman, Arizona's director of veterans affairs; Charles Ford, vice mayor of Tucson and Francisco Esco-

bar, vice mayor of Sierra Vista, Ariz., Bob's hometown. Gov. Bruce Babbitt attended a reception for the new "Chief" prior to the banquet.

In brief remarks the Commander-in-Chief thanked all of the members of the Department of Arizona for their strong support and loyalty during the years he moved through the chairs to the number one position of the nation's oldest and largest major overseas veterans organization. He paid special tribute to the members of his home Post, No. 9972, Sierra Vista and all of the people of that community.

Henry Hart served as general chairman of the homecoming. Past Commander-in-Chief John Stang, of Kansas, was master of ceremonies at the banquet. Dignitaries in attendance included National Officers, Past Commanders-in-Chief and Sergeant Major of the United States Army William Connelly. Bob's mother and father and daughter, Denita, also proudly participated in all the festivities.

The final event of the big weekend was a breakfast at VFW Post 549 in Tucson, which also furnished a Color Guard at the banquet.

**WZL**

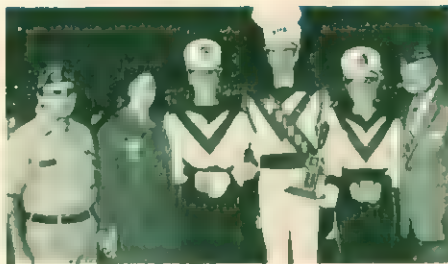
*Commander-in-Chief James R. (Bob) Currieo presents a check to Bob Hope for the USO Bob Hope Fund. In the center is Auxiliary President Florence Taylor.*

# PAGEANT OF DRUMS

Several thousand persons thrilled to the Million Dollar Pageant of Drums, Aug. 15, held at the East Los Angeles City College Stadium. In these pictures winners are shown accepting their prizes from Auxiliary President Marion Watson and Commander-in-Chief Arthur J. Fellwock. Besides plaques and trophies, the contestants vied for \$25,000 in cash awards. In addition, prizes were awarded to winners in the Military Parade competition held the night before when several thousand VFW members marched along Broadway to the Civic Center.



Daren Santos accepts for the Blue Devils, of VFW Post 3059, Pleasant Hill, Calif., in the Junior Drum and Bugle Corps contest, the first place winner. Other winners were Black Watch, of Post 1741, Auburn, Wash., second, and Seattle Cascades, of VFW Post 4137, Seattle, Wash., third.



In Junior Bands, the Santa Ana Winds, of Santa Ana, Calif., took first place. Accepting are Colleen Starr, Phil Martin and Teresa Melvin. Other winners were the Spirit of Sunnyvale, Sunnyvale, Calif., second, and Los Caballeros Youth Band, Whittier, Calif., third.



Junior Girls Drill Team winners were the La Mirada Squirettes, of Post 9148, La Mirada, Calif.



Junior Boys ROTC winners were the Air Force Junior ROTC Red Berets, of Post 7368, Huntington Beach, Calif. Accepting is Michael J. Barry.



Junior Girls Rifle Team winners were the Angel Flight, of Post 6330, Jonesboro, Ga. Accepting are Lisa Lovett and Barbara Burnett.



Junior Boys Rifle Drill Team winners were the Springfield Rifles, Post 1031, Springfield, Ohio. Accepting is Scott Welsh.



Senior Ladies Drill Team winners were the Fraser Golden Eaglettes, Post 6691, Fraser, Mich. Accepting is Eileen Rush.



Senior Ladies Color Guard winners were the Tag-A-Longs, of Post 1912, West Allis, Wis. Accepting is Marion Lamboy.

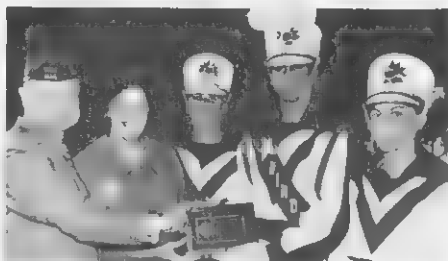


Senior Men's Color Guard winner's were the Springfield Rifles, Post 1031, Springfield, Ohio. Accepting is Ralph E. Welsh.





Junior Color Guard winners were the Seattle Cascades, Post 4137, Seattle, Wash. Accepting is Deanna Wiediger.



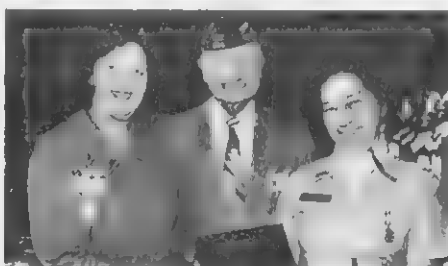
The Santa Ana Winds were rated the best performing junior band. Los Cabelleros, of Carson, Calif., were second, and the Spirit of Sunnyvale, of Sunnyvale, Calif., third.



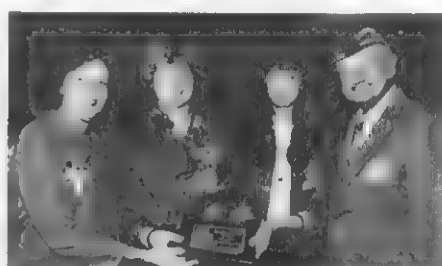
The best performing junior drum and bugle corps were the Blue Devils. Other winners were the Seattle Cascades, second, and the Black Watch, third.



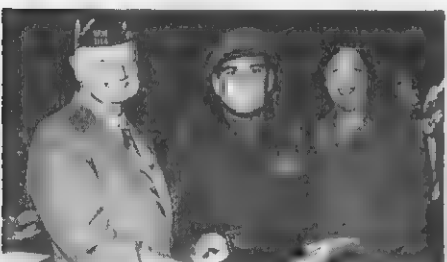
The best appearing senior mens VFW color guard was the Department of New Jersey's. Accepting are Peter Catelli and Ed Nagy.



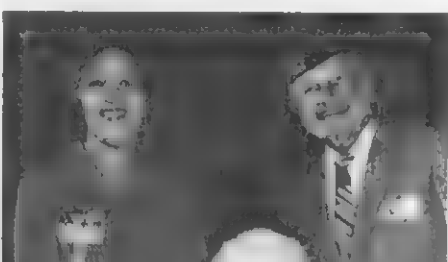
Best appearing senior Ladies VFW Auxiliary color guard were the Proud Ladies of Post 549, Tucson, Ariz. Accepting is Yvonne LaGrange.



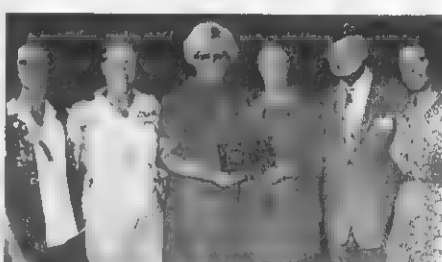
The Del-Mac CYO Red Diamonds, of Post 898, Lackawanna, N.Y., were the best appearing junior color guard. Accepting are Patty Laszewski and Tara Krieger.



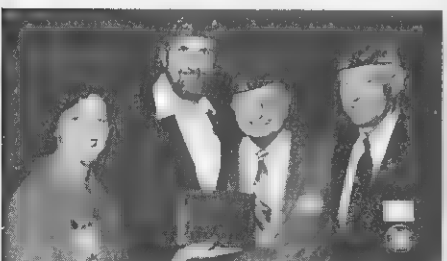
The Red Berets were chosen the best appearing drill team.



The best appearing junior majorette and baton corps were the Continental Cadets of Post 8680, Upland, Calif. Kristen Mattaz holds the award.



The Department of Louisiana won best appearing VFW Ladies Auxiliary marching unit honors. Accepting the plaque are Doris Smith, Isabelle Kitchen, Opal Hudson and Pat Chassay.



Massachusetts won the best appearing VFW marching unit prize for the fifth year in a row. Holding it is Department Commander Paul Spera as Sr. Vice Commander Gardner McWilliams looks on.



# VFW PAC...

(Continued from page 22)

## ILLINOIS

District		% Right
(4)	O'Brien	86
(6)	Hyde	92
(8)	Rostenkowski	64
(10)	Porter	71
(11)	Annunzio	71
(12)	Crane, P.	79
(13)	Erlenborn	93
(14)	Corcoran	92
(15)	Madigan	91
(16)	Martin	93
(18)	Michel	86
(19)	Crane, D	79
(20)	Findley	64
(21)	Price	75

## INDIANA

District		% Right
(3)	Hiler	86
(4)	Coats	93
(5)	Hillis	92
(7)	Myers	93
(8)	Deckard	73

## IOWA

District		% Right
(3)	Evans	67

## KANSAS

District		% Right
(1)	Roberts	93
(3)	Winn	93
(4)	Glickman	71
(5)	Whittaker	93

## KENTUCKY

District		% Right
(1)	Hubbard	64
(2)	Natcher	93
(3)	Mazzoli	71
(4)	Snyder	79
(5)	Rogers	93
(6)	Hopkins	79
(7)	Perkins	71

## LOUISIANA

District		% Right
(1)	Livingston	93
(2)	Boggs	79
(3)	Tauzin	93
(4)	Roemer	93
(5)	Huckaby	93
(6)	Moore	93
(7)	Breaux	100
(8)	Long	85

## MAINE

District		% Right
(2)	Snowe	86

## MARYLAND

District		% Right
(1)	Dyson	93
(2)	Long	86
(4)	Holt	85
(5)	Hoyer	78
(6)	Byron	93

## MASSACHUSETTS

District		% Right
(1)	Conte	64
(4)	Heckler	71
(11)	Donnelly	60

## MICHIGAN

District		% Right
(4)	Siljander	93
(5)	Sawyer	93
(6)	Dunn	92
(9)	Vander Jagt	93
(10)	Albosta	86
(11)	Davis	85
(18)	Broomfield	92

## MINNESOTA

District		% Right
(1)	Hagedorn	82
(2)	Weber	69
(3)	Frenzel	86
(6)	Erdahl	64
(7)	Strangeland	86

## MISSISSIPPI

District		% Right
(1)	Whitten	86
(3)	Montgomery	100
(4)	Dowdy	89
(5)	Lott	93

## MISSOURI

District		% Right
(2)	Young	93
(3)	Gephardt	79
(4)	Skelton	100
(6)	Bailey	86
(7)	Coleman	86
(8)	Taylor	93
(9)	Emerson	93
(9)	Volkmer	86

## MONTANA

District		% Right
(2)	Marlenee	73

## NEBRASKA

District		% Right
(1)	Bereuter	79
(2)	Daub	79
(3)	Smith	64

## NEVADA

(No Endorsement)

## NEW HAMPSHIRE

District		% Right
(1)	D'Amours	71
(2)	Gregg	71

## NEW JERSEY

District		% Right
(4)	Smith	79
(5)	Roukema	86
(7)	Rinaldo	86
(9)	Hollenbeck	71
(12)	Courter	86

## Senate

DeConcini	Arizona	91
Weicker	Connecticut	62
Roth	Delaware	64
Chiles	Florida	100
Matsunaga	Hawaii	71
Lugar	Indiana	71
Sarbanes	Maryland	73
Riegle	Michigan	62
Durenberger	Minnesota	67
Stennis	Mississippi	100
Danforth	Missouri	64
Melcher	Montana	83
Zorinsky	Nebraska	100
Cannon	Nevada	83
Fenwick	New Jersey	62
Schmitt	New Mexico	73
Moynihan	New York	71
Burdick	North Dakota	71
Metzenbaum	Ohio	64
Heinz	Pennsylvania	67
Sasser	Tennessee	100
Bentsen	Texas	93
Hatch	Utah	71
Tribble	Virginia	93
Jackson	Washington	86
Byrd	West Virginia	93
Wallop	Wyoming	64

NOTE: Non-incumbents are shown with their percent right as members of the House of Representatives.

(See VFW PAC page 50)



# Auxiliary's Record Year

Mrs. Florence Taylor, of Binghamton, N.Y., was elected national President of the Ladies Auxiliary to the VFW at the 1982 National Convention in Los Angeles.

Mrs. Taylor will direct patriotic and service programs for 668,243 members in over 7,000 Auxiliaries throughout the United States and overseas.

"That Freedom May Live" keynotes her leadership year.

"Freedom has been the quest of our nation since its beginning," she said. "It is freedom that makes America different from Communist Russia, fascism or other isms. America was settled by seekers of freedom. Americans of all ages, races, creeds and geographical areas must be active participants in strengthening our freedoms.

"Our goal is to reawaken Americans to how lucky we are to have the privilege of freedom of speech, freedom of press, freedom of religion and freedom of assembly." "As we serve America, we seek no glory, only the glory of God and His blessings on our people, our country and the world. But freedom requires responsibility and it must be cherished and guarded and never taken for granted. The price of freedom is eternal vigilance. We must remember that the defenders of America, our veterans, served our country that 'Freedom May Live', many making the supreme sacrifice. We must commemorate their bravery and service with patriotism lived every day."

Mrs. Marion Watson, of Louisville, Ky., 1981-82 Auxiliary national President, presiding over convention sessions, reported that Auxiliary members devoted more than 26 million hours of volunteer service and contributed over \$30 million dollars for service projects during the past year. Her term marked the auxiliary's 27th year of continuous membership growth.

The United American Award was presented to Mrs. Elizabeth Dole, assistant to President Ronald Reagan for public liaison, for commitment and leadership to Amer-



ica. The wife of Sen. Robert Dole (Kans.), she directs the President's major outreach program at the White House, to assure that views of key organizations are considered by the President in developing public policy.

Danny Thomas, a past recipient of the Auxiliary Better World Award and founder of St. Jude Children's Hospital in Memphis, Tenn., accepted a \$10,000 cancer research grant.

Nancy Walker, a director and star of stage, screen, radio and TV, received the Serve America Award for service as an American Cancer Society (ACS) volunteer. A former cancer victim, she accepted a \$5,000 check for ACS's public education.

The American Spirit Award honored Rosemary Clooney, a singer and stage, screen, radio and TV entertainer, for service to hospitalized veterans and members of Armed Forces. The award included a \$1,000 check which she designated for High Hopes, a neurological recovery group.

Lori Cox, of Paradise Valley, Ariz., the founder of National Patriotism Week who restored the Pledge of Allegiance to Arizona schools, was named the 1982

Commander-in-Chief Arthur J. Felwlock presents Auxiliary President Marion Watson with the VFW Gold Medal of Merit and Citation for her work on behalf of VFW goals.

Unsung Heroine. Her award included a \$500 check to continue her patriotic work.

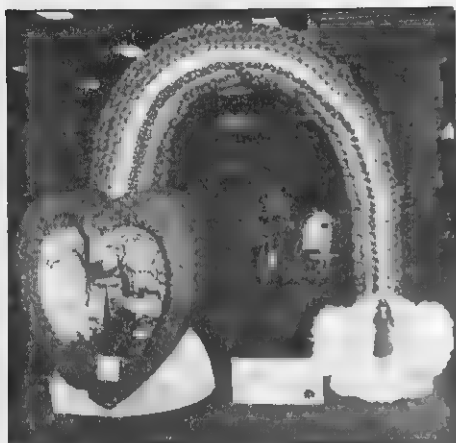
The nation's top Junior Girl, Detria Lynnee Melosh, of Baltimore, Ohio, received an engraved silver bowl and a \$1,500 college scholarship to be held in trust until she enrolls in the college of her choice.

A \$1,000 Junior Girls scholarship went to Lori Schlueter, of Litchfield, Minn.

Five winning entries in the Young American Creative Patriotic Art Competition were exhibited. The first place \$1,000 art education scholarship was won by Lori Manzardo, of Flint, Mich. The other prizes were a \$500 scholarship to Thomas Colvin, of Hobbs, N.M.; a \$100 award to Sharon VanWey, of Red Cloud, Neb.; \$50 to Brad Reichert, Fort Morgan,

(See Record Year page 55)

# Buddy Poppy Winners



Post 3263's winning display.

Category I, first place was won by Post 3263, Mystic, Conn. Post 5149, Rockford, Ill., was second and Post 800, Sleepy Eye, Minn., third. This category included the public promotion of Poppy sales. Honorable mention went to Post 1175, Atchison, Kans., and Post 4219, Orchard Farm, Mo.

Category II, the memorial or inspirational display, Post 8639, Louisville, Ky., with this simulated Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, was first place winner. Post 5077, O'Fallon, Mo., was second and Post 9562, Minneapolis, Minn., third. Honorable mention went to Post 6957, Hysville, Kans., and Post 8620, West Covina, Calif.

Category III, Post 1837, Dallas, Texas, won first place in Category III. These displays demonstrated the decorative or artistic use of Poppies. Post 6213, Sylmar, Calif., was second and Post 10047, Las Vegas, Nev., third. Post 4307, Enterprise, Ore., and District 3, N.Y.

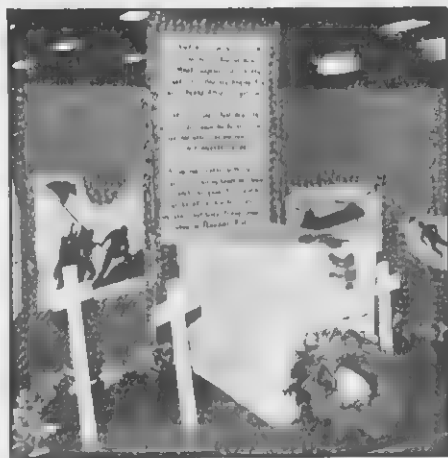
The Special Award went to Post 5101 Denver, Colo.

Honorable mention laurels were won by Post 1175, Atchison, Kans., and Post 4219, Orchard Farm, Mo., Category I; Post 6957, Haysville, Kans., and Post 8620, West Covina, Calif., Category II, and Post 4307, Enterprise, Ore., and District 3, N.Y., Category III.

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The display of Buddy Poppies at the National Convention attracted hundreds of visitors who marveled at the variety of ways the Poppies can be used to stimulate sales and to increase public awareness of their purpose. On this page are pictures of the top winners in the Buddy Poppy contest and a listing of the runnersup.

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Post 8639 won with this.



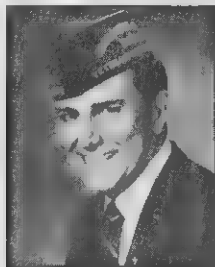
Post 1837's artistry succeeded.



Post 5101 used the Cross of Malta.



# National Officers, 1982-83



**JAMES R. (BOB)  
CURRIE**  
*Commander in Chief*



**CLIFFORD G. OLSON**  
*Sr Vice  
Commander in Chief*



**BILLY RAY  
CAMERON**  
*Jr Vice  
Commander in Chief*



**HOWARD E.  
VANDER CLUTE**  
*Adjutant General*



**J. A. CHEATHAM**  
*Quartermaster General*



**JAMES C. MCKEE**  
*Judge Advocate General*



**DR. PHILIP J.  
BEGLEY**  
*Surgeon General*



**THE REV. AUSTIN  
J. HENRY**  
*National Chaplain*



**ROGER SELLERS**  
*Chief of Staff*



**RALPH  
ROHWEDDER**  
*Inspector General*

## Life is Precious

Remembering the dead is another way of celebrating life, Rear Adm. R.H. Trower, the Navy's chief of chaplains, told the somber VFW members and their families at the Los Angeles Convention Center during the annual Memorial Service, Aug. 15.

Dedicated to the American dead of all wars, the service recalled especially Past Commander-in-Chief James W. Cothran, who led the organization in 1952 and 1953 and died only days before the Memorial Service.

"As money inflates, our values are eroded and life is not worth much," Trower said. "We parade our deepest feelings in all kinds of demonstrations. Life is not cheap.

"I believe deeply that our remembered dead have something to do with our regard for life and our appreciation of life."

Adm. Trower urged that "our remembrance of the dead serve to foster the value of life. Let it be enough this day to say with hearts full of pride and joy that God makes

all things possible in His kingdom.

"Life must never be cheap or trivial. This memorial service must bring to us a renewed sense of life and service."

"Remembering the dead is a ritual that has many meanings," he said. "For some, it is an obligation of soldiers, sailors and Marines. For some, it is an opportunity to comfort a terrible loss so that grief becomes more manageable. For many, it is a recollection of all that goes into making peace and what a citizen will do to bring decency into the world.

"For all of us, it is a time of gathering a new resolve that the day will come when men will war no more.

"We are brought together as one people in remembering the dead and so it is at this 83rd National Convention of the VFW when we listen to a roll that was called up yonder.

"There was one we knew best, Jimmy Cothran, or a brother or a wife, husband, mother, son, daughter or friend. That one name grabs our attention in such a way that no other can.

"We can remember all who have given their lives in service to their country and now rest in peace.

"As men and women of this wonderful land, we build a platform for values and express what we believe. They are the eternal verities that are passed along to each generation, how God places life in the hands of people like you and me."

The Rev. Carl F. Bell, associate pastor of Immaculate Conception Church, in his invocation, asked prayers for all killed in the nation's service and those in the VFW and Ladies Auxiliary, including Past Commander-in-Chief Cothran, who have died in the past year.

He also asked for prayers for those in the nation's armed forces in order that their dedication might inspire the younger generation of Americas.

Rabbi Joseph Elsan, a retired Army reserve colonel and chaplain at the Brentwood VA hospital, delivered the benediction.

This year, in addition to the cross and star of David, a Buddhist religious symbol was added to the simulated grave used in the service conducted by Commander-in-Chief Arthur J. Fellwock.

Other participants in the service included the Mendenhall Women's Chorale, the Royal Cavalier Band and Tom Paterra, the soloist.

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## General Orders...

(Continued from page 25)

- gation be incurred against this fund until after July 1, 1983, at which time all moneys to the credit of the fund shall be transferred to the Department general fund for expenditure in accordance with the Department budget.
- POST RESERVE Attention is directed to Section 218, Manual of Procedure, which mandates Post Quartermasters to maintain a dues reserve fund to which shall be credited not less than one-half of the Post's part of the current year's 1983 dues paid by each member prior to July 1, 1983, except dues remitted by the Post. No Post Quartermaster shall disburse nor shall an obligation be incurred against this fund until after July 1, 1984, at which time it shall be transferred to the Post general fund and be available for expenditure.
  - Attention of Commanders at all levels is directed to Section 703 of the National Constitution and By-Laws and Manual of Procedure which requires that each accountable officer be bonded with an indemnity company, in the sum, at least equal to the amount of negotiable funds for which he may be accountable.
  - Attention of Post Commanders is directed to Section 218, Manual of Procedure, Duty of Trustees, which states that Post Trustees shall prepare and submit, through their Post Commander, a Trustee Report of Audit (Form P-113) quarterly to the Department Quartermaster for referral to National Headquarters. Such report is due at the close of September.
  - Attention of Department and Post Commanders is directed to the requirement of timely filing of Internal Revenue Form 990 and 990T, where applicable. Forms may be secured from your local Post office or branch office of Internal Revenue Service.
  - All National Aides-de-Camp, Congressional Medal of Honor Class, who held appointments prior to August 19, 1982, will be reappointed upon notification by Department Quartermasters that such aides are members in good standing.
  - All members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States who have been awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor are eligible to appointment as Aides-de-Camp to the Commander in Chief, Congressional Medal of Honor Class. Post Commander will report such members to their Department Commander-in-Chief for recommendation and referral to the Commander-in-Chief.
  - Posts are urged to start planning suitable programs now for the observance of Veterans Day (See Section 223, Manual of Procedure).
  - The National Council of Administration meeting will be held in Kansas City, Missouri, on October 2, 1982.
  - Certificates of charter evidencing consolidation have been issued to the following Posts: Posts 2567 and 6283 consolidated as Post 2567, Hazlehurst, Miss.; Posts 10068 and 10515 consolidated as Post 10068, Naranja, Fla.; and Posts 4982 and 7891 consolidated as Post 4982, Santa Clara, Ca. Charters have been authorized for Marshall County Council, Department of Alabama, and Hathead County Council, Department of Montana.
  - The locations of the following Posts have been changed: Post No. 10408 from Avondale to Coonycreek, Ariz.; and Post No. 8856 from Adams to Rose Creek, Minn.
  - Charters for the following Posts have been authorized: Post 1700, Nevada, Mo.; Post 2917, Philadelphia, Pa.; Post 3229, Springfield, Ala.; Post 1757, Burnsville, W. Va.; Post 4380, Plano, Texas; Post 4459, Maragorda, Texas; Post 4539, Eolia, Mo.; Post 4542, Jenny Lind, Ark.; Post 4610, Clarks ville, Mo.; Post 1678, New London, Mo.; Post 4720, Center, Mo.; Post 4776, Dewitt, Ark.; Post 4865, Ardmore, Okla.; Post 4885, Natchez, Miss.; Post 5026, Mt. Ida, Ark.; Post 5293, Melrose Park, Ill.; Post 5438, Land O' Lakes, Fla.; Post 5504, Carol Stream, Ill.; Post 5601, Linton, Ind.; Post 6019, Knoxville, Tenn.; Post 7331, Richmond Hill, Ga.; Post 7394, Blairsville, Ga.; Post 8870, Edmonds, Wash.; Post 9079, Spanaway, Wash.; Post 9278, Myton, Utah; Post 9402, Ellensburg, Wash.; Post 9482, Suffolk, Va.; Post 9516, Cerro, N.M.; Post 10089, Warren Township, N.J.; Post 10241, Willow, Alaska; Post 10246, Seward, Alaska; Post 10658, Schweinfurt, West Germany; Post 10659, Columbia, N.C.; Post 10661, Mamou, La.; Post 10662, Boswell, Okla.; Post 10664, Pollockville, N.C.; Post 10664, Elton, La.; Post 10665, Topsy, La.; Post 10666, Bethel, N.C.; Post 10667, Newcastle, Okla.; Post 10668, Hemingford, Neb.; Post 10669, Walworth, Wis.; Post 10670, New London, N.H.; and Post 10671, Arcadia, Wis.

OFFICIAL

Howard E. Vander Clute, Jr.  
Adjutant General

By Command of

JAMES R. CURRIE  
Commander-in-Chief

## Mail Call...

(Continued from page 2)

need another Civil War. But if this conflict continues, anything could happen.

It's hard to believe that my dad, husband, brother and cousins came home from World Wars I and II, honored and respected, yet my son came home from the Vietnam War humiliated and disgraced.—Mrs. Ethel F. Clevenger, PO Box 97, Atwood, Colo. 80722.

(See Mail Call page 52)

## Resolutions & Amendments

### Adopted by the 83rd VFW National Convention

Delegates to the 1982 annual National Convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States in Los Angeles, Aug. 13-19, adopted these By Law changes and resolutions which serve as mandates in guiding the VFW during 1982-83.

#### National By-Laws

##### Section 201—Formation, Chartering and Instituting

Amend Section 201, National By-Laws by deleting the second sentence of the third paragraph in its entirety.

##### Section 216—Officers, Elected and Appointed

Amend Section 216, National By-Laws, by adding the following as subparagraph (c): "Post Officers, elected and appointed, shall submit proof of eligibility for the files of the Post Adjutant within thirty (30) days from date of election or appointment."

##### Section 316—County Council Officers, Elected and Appointed

Amend Section 316, National By-Laws, by adding the following paragraph: "County Council Officers, elected and appointed, shall submit proof of eligibility for the files of the County Council Adjutant."

##### Section 414—District Officers, Elected and Appointed

Amend Section 414, National By-Laws, by adding the following as subparagraph (c): "District Officers, elected and appointed, shall submit proof of eligibility for the files of the District Adjutant within thirty (30) days from date of election or appointment."

##### Section 515—Department Officers, Elected and Appointed

Amend Section 515, National By-Laws, by adding the following as subparagraph (c): "Department Officers, elected and appointed, shall submit proof of eligibility for the files of the Department Adjutant within thirty (30) days from date of election or appointment."

##### Section 608—Officers, Elected and Appointed

Amend Section 608, National By-Laws, by adding the following as subparagraph (c): "National Officers, elected and appointed, shall submit proof of eligibility for the files of the National General within thirty (30) days from date of election or appointment."

##### Section 222—Delegates, County Council, District, Department and National Conventions

Amend Section 222, National By-Laws, subsection (a) by placing a period after the word "election" in the fifth line thereof and deleting the remaining words therein "with maximum of eight (8) delegates and eight (8) alternates from any Post."

##### Section 610—Officers, Power and Duties

Amend Section 610, National By-Laws, subsection (a), by deleting the word and number "fifty (50)" in the first sentence of the second paragraph thereof and substituting in its place the word and number "sixty (60)".

##### Section 610—Officers, Powers and Duties

Amend Section 610, National By-Laws, subsection (c) by deleting the word and number "thirty (30)" in the last paragraph and sentence thereof and substituting in its place the word and number "sixty (60)".

##### Section 617—Regional National Council of Administration Members—How Elected

Amend Section 617, National By-Laws, by deleting the paragraph immediately following the enumeration of the Regional Districts this paragraph being no longer applicable.

##### Section 709—Control of Units

Amend Section 709, National By-Laws, by adding the following paragraph at the end of the Section:

"When properly approved by the members of the Post, the Commander and Quartermaster shall be authorized to sign such legal documents required to sell or purchase real property."

#### Manual of Procedure

##### Section 217—Nomination, Election and Term of Office

Amend Section 217, Manual of Procedure, by the deletion of the second sentence in the fourth paragraph thereof and the substitution in its place of the following sentence:

"At the meeting for nominations, prior to the opening of nominations, the Post may, by majority vote, decide to conduct the election by printed ballot, in which case, the names of nominees shall be printed on a ballot with spaces provided for writing in of additional names at time of election, but there shall be no further nominations after such meeting."

and the addition thereto of the following sentence: "In addition to determining the hours of balloting as set forth (See Res. & Amendments page 48)"

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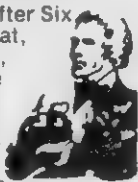
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# Resolutions & Amendments...

(Continued from page 47)

below, the Post shall establish adequate safeguards to assure those members in good standing who present themselves during the specified hours an opportunity to vote and have their votes counted as cast.

## Section 221-Voting

Amend Section 221, Manual of Procedure, by the addition of the following to the second sentence thereof:

during the hours of balloting determined by vote of the Post as outlined in Section 218 of the Manual of Procedure

and by the addition of the following sentence:

"Voting may only be accomplished by members in attendance at a meeting or if the printed ballot is used by members presenting themselves and casting their ballot during the specified hours for balloting."

## Americanism and Community Activities

- 101 Cooperation with National and State Organizations to Promote Youth, Safety and Patriotism Programs
- 102 Support and Promote Voice of Democracy Program
- 104 Restore Memorial Day to May 30th
- 105 Religion on the Airways
- 106 Let Safety Program
- 107 Special Interest Youth Program
- 109 Extend Posthumous Citizenship to Wladyslaw Stanislawski
- 110 The Military Chaplaincy
- 111 Let Freedom Ring
- 112 Proper Display of the American Flag
- 114 Restore Voluntary Prayer in Public Schools

## Finance and Internal Organization

- 205 Insure Adequate Meeting Place Facilities for Handicapped and Disabled
- 206 Recommendation for Medal of Honor for Herman Miller
- 207 Navajo Code Talkers
- 209 "Political Yes" Partisan No"
- 212 American Red Cross-VFW and Ladies Auxiliary Disaster Relief Understanding
- 214 Real People
- 215 National Home
- 216 Navajo Code Talkers

## General Resolutions

- 301 The Copyrights Act of 1976
- 302 Supporting Legislation to Insure the Tax Exempt Status of Social Security Benefits
- 304 Right to Bear Arms
- 305 Postage Stamp in Honor of Deborah Sampson
- 312 Support of Bill HR 1861
- 314 Deregulation of Federal Assistance to Handicapped Americans
- 315 Commemorative Stamp Honoring General Chennault

## National Security and Foreign Affairs

- 402 Assure the Flow of Undiluted Military Advice to the President and the Congress
- 403 The U.S. Military: A Calling NOT a Job
- 404 Preserve the U.S. Coast Guard
- 405 Aid the Afghan Freedom Fighters and Refugees
- 406 The VFW Anti Communist Pro-Freedom and Proud Of It
- 407 Support for Poland, Make the USSR Pay
- 408 Deny Southern Africa to Communist Military Imperialism
- 409 Shoring Up the Middle East
- 410 No Women in Combat Jobs
- 412 Stamp Out Terrorism
- 413 American Defense Primacy, The Enduring Commitment
- 414 National Strategy of Peace Through Strength
- 415 Restore American Primacy, The Enduring Commitment
- 416 Non-Stop VFW Support for the CIA and FBI
- 417 Support for Real, Equitable, Mutual and Verifiable Arms Reduction
- 418 Support for the Proposed Seven-Year Civil Defense Buildup
- 419 Refugees and Illegal Aliens in the United States
- 420 Unwavering U.S. Support for the Republic of Korea
- 421 The Isolation of Communist Cuba
- 422 America's POW: MIA A Non-negotiable Matter of Honor
- 424 POW/MIA Subcommittee of the National Security Commission
- 425 Return to a Fair and Laophile-Free Draft As Soon As Practicable
- 426 An Informed Anti-Communism and American Security
- 427 Support for the Republic of China on Taiwan
- 429 Opposition to Sale of Weapons and Technology to Communist Countries
- 430 Loyal Hire's Rights
- 435 Urging the "Voice of America and Radio Free Europe" and "Radio Liberty" to Tell the WHOLE Truth
- 441 General William C. Westmoreland
- 443 Oppose World Government
- 444 Oppose U.S. Adherence to the United Nations Genocide Treaty
- 446 E.I.F. Communication System
- 452 Prohibit the Purchase of Iranian Oil
- 454 Buy American
- 456 Reorganize the Joint Chiefs of Staff
- 461 Recognizing the Plight of the Amerasian Children of American Servicemen
- 463 National Guard Reserve Duty
- 466 Exploitation of U.S. Space Technology for Defense
- 467 Stop Trading With the Enemies of Democracy
- 468 Support for HR 5701 Concerning Pay for JROTC Instructors
- 469 Nuclear Freeze or Peace Through Strength?

## Veterans Service

- 601 The VA Budget and Reconciliation

(See Res. & Amendments page 49)

## Resolutions & Amendments...

(Continued from page 48)

- 602 Lobby Reform Legislation
- 604 Apportionment of Armed Forces, Civil Service Retired Pay or Survivors' Annuities
- 605 Government Reorganization
- 606 Oppose Curtailment or Elimination of Earned Veteran Benefits and Privileges
- 607 Herbicide Exposure
- 608 New Legislative Initiatives
- 609 Catch 62
- 610 Survivor Benefit Plan (SRP)
- 611 Maintain VA Regional Offices
- 612 Oppose Funding of Peacetime "GI Bill" Through VA Appropriation
- 613 Create Cabinet Status for Administrator of Veterans Administration
- 615 Oath of Inability to Defray the Cost of Medical Care
- 616 VA Constructive Program
- 617 Oppose Contracting of VA Services
- 619 Prescription Medication for Chronic Disability
- 621 Radiation Exposure-Dosage Values and Service Connection
- 622 Funding for Nurses and Physicians Scholarship Training Program
- 623 Herbicide Fee Basis (Genetic Counseling)
- 625 Unemployment Compensation
- 626 CHAMPUS
- 627 Oppose VA Hospital Bed Reductions
- 629 To Provide for a National Cemetery in Every State
- 631 Opposition to Proposed Budget Reductions by CBO
- 632 Rural Benefit Allowance
- 633 Opposition to Proposed Reductions in Veterans Benefits by CBO
- 635 Opposing the Inclusion of the VA Hospital System in any National Health Insurance Plan
- 636 Concurrent Payments of VA Disability Compensation and Military Retirement Pay
- 637 Amend Title 38, United States Code 641
- 640 Employment and Training Assistance for Veterans
- 641 Support for the National Guard/Reserve
- 642 Funding of Employment Service
- 643 Support for DVOP Employment Program Special Funding
- 645 Uphold Resident Requirements for Appointments of Directors of Veterans Employment Service
- 651 Poplar Bluff VA Hospital
- 652 Improve Disabled Veteran Job Opportunities
- 655 Qualifications for Veterans Employment Representatives
- 658 Support Legislation to Improve VA Delivery of Geriatric and Extended Health Care Services
- 659 Outpatient Dental Care WWI Veterans
- 663 VA Hospital Budget
- 667 Special World War I Pension
- 668 Matching-Fund Construction Grants to States
- 669 Congress Enact Legislation to Reimburse William Kubrick for Negligent Medical Treatment—VA Hospital
- 671 Select "Unknown" Vietnam Vet for Burial at Tomb of Unknown Soldier in Arlington, VA
- 672 Retired Military Personnel Be Admitted to Nearest Military Installation, VA Clinic or Hospital if Medical Care is Required
- 673 VA Hospital Employment Discrimination
- 679 Replacement of Veterans Administration Medical Center Allen Park, Michigan
- 680 GI Bill Education Entitlement
- 684 Federal Contract Monitoring
- 685 Reemployment Rights
- 687 Veterans Representatives on Federal Training Program
- 691 Estates of Incompetent and Institutionalized Veterans
- 693 Acknowledgement of Service Rendered in Korea
- 699 Veterans Preference in Block Grant Federal Funds to States
- 700 Oppose Federal Agencies Letting Out Contract For Services
- 702 Naval Cemetery Mare Island Naval Shipyard
- 704 Dental Care for POW's
- 706 Authorization of Chiropractic Care
- 707 GI Home Loan Program
- 709 Oppose Elimination of VA Dependence Allowances
- 715 New Construction VA Medical Center Houston, Texas
- 723 PI 97-72
- 726 Opposing Any Proposal That Would Offset Payments of VA Compensation and Social Security Disability Insurance Benefits Or Any Other Federal Benefit
- 729 Clothing Allowance for Veterans with Service Connected Skin Conditions
- 730 To Provide a Ten Year Protection Period for Service Connected Disability Evaluations
- 731 Non-Service Connected Pension
- 734 Increase of Fee Limitations for Veterans Using VA Fee Basis Out Patient Medical Care Authorization Cards (VA Form 10-1174)
- 735 Veterans' Preference
- 736 Unemployment Compensation for Ex-Military Personnel
- 737 Support Adequate Funding for Veterans' Employment Service
- 740 Oppose Changes in Wagner Peyser Act
- 745 Strongylus Stercoralis
- 745 Meloidosis
- 746 G.I. Bill Delimiting Date
- 752 Frank A Vietnam Veteran
- 761 Agent Orange
- 762 Separate Funding for Veterans in Employment and Training Programs
- 766 National Cemetery Markers
- 770 Use of Military Postal Service by the VFW
- 775 Judicial Review
- 776 User Fees
- 777 Sunset and Veterans' Employment Rights
- 778 COIA for Federal Beneficiaries
- 779 Reprimand Administrator of Veterans Affairs

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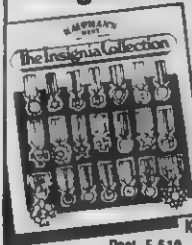
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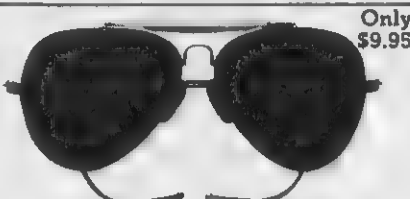
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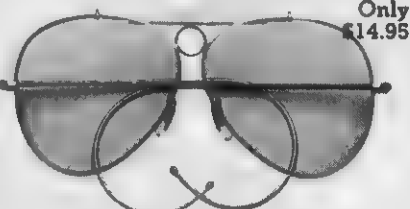


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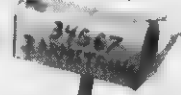
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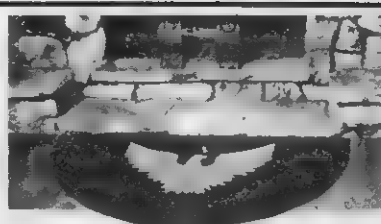
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VFW PAC...

(Continued from page 42)

## NEW MEXICO

District		% Right
(1)	Lujan	77
(2)	Skeen	93

## NEW YORK

District		% Right
(1)	Carney	100
(3)	LeBoutillier	93
(4)	Lent	93
(5)	McGrath	93
(14)	Molinari	79
	Zeferetti	64
(15)	Green	64
(21)	Fish	86
(22)	Gilman	85
(23)	Stratton	83
(24)	Solomon	86
(26)	Martin	91
(27)	Wortley	93
(29)	Horton	71
(30)	Conable	85
(31)	Kemp	100

## NORTH CAROLINA

District		% Right
(1)	Jones	78
(3)	Whitley	86
(4)	Andrews	92
(5)	Neal	86
(6)	Johnston	82
(7)	Rose	93
(8)	Hefner	93
(9)	Martin	93
(10)	Broyhill	93
(11)	Hendon	93

## NORTH DAKOTA

District		% Right
AL	Dorgan	64

## OHIO

District		% Right
(1)	Luken	86
(2)	Gradison	86
(3)	Hall	79
(4)	Oxley	86
(5)	Latta	86
(6)	McEwen	93
(8)	Kindness	93
(9)	Weber	86
(10)	Miller	71
(12)	Shamansky	71
(15)	Wylie	79
(16)	Regula	93
(17)	Williams	85
(20)	Oakar	64

## OKLAHOMA

District		% Right
(1)	Jones	93
(2)	Synar	64
(3)	Watkins	93
(4)	McCurdy	93
(5)	Edwards	93
(6)	English	100

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## OREGON

District		% Right
(5)	Smith	86

## PENNSYLVANIA

District		% Right
(3)	Dougherty	86
(4)	Atkinson	79
(5)	Schulze	92
(6)	Yatron	79
(8)	Coyne	86
(9)	Shuster	79
(10)	McDade	92
(11)	Nelligan	86
(12)	Murtha	71
(13)	Coughlin	92
(15)	Ritter	86
(16)	Walker	83
(19)	Goodling	69
(23)	Clinger	93

## RHODE ISLAND

District		% Right
(2)	Schneider	69

## SOUTH CAROLINA

District		% Right
(1)	Hartnett	86
(2)	Spence	93
(3)	Derrick	82
(4)	Campbell	93
(6)	Napier	100

## SOUTH DAKOTA

District		% Right
• AL	Deschle	64
	Roberts	85

## TENNESSEE

District		% Right
(1)	Quillen	86
(2)	Duncan	82
(3)	Bouquard	100
(5)	Boner	86
(6)	Gore	64
(8)	Jones	93

## TEXAS

District		% Right
(1)	Hall, S.	92
(2)	Wilson	100
(4)	Hall, R.	93
(6)	Gramm	86
(7)	Archer	86
(8)	Fields	86
(9)	Brooks	67
(10)	Pickle	64
(11)	Leath	86
(12)	Wright	79
(13)	Hightower	100
(14)	Patman	77
(15)	de la Garza	75
(17)	Stenholm	93
(19)	Hance	86
(20)	Gonzalez	71
(21)	Loeffler	93
(23)	Kazen	79
(24)	Frost	67

(See VFW PAC page 52)



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## Mail Call...

(Continued from page 46)

### Bugler Tapes Available

Veterans' groups needing recordings of a bugler playing "Taps" for memorial services and military funerals may obtain cassette tapes from World War II veteran George Gregory, of Pontiac, Mich. Two such tapes are available, including one of "Taps" and the firing squad at the funeral of President John F. Kennedy. There is no charge for the tapes, although contributions are welcomed to help pay for the tapes and mailing.—George Gregory, 1470 Circle Dr., Apt. 304, Pontiac, Mich. 48055.

### VFW PAC...

(Continued from page 51)

UTAH		
District		% Right
(1)	Hansen	92
(2)	Marriott	92

VERMONT		
District		% Right
AL	Jeffords	69

VIRGINIA		
District		% Right
(2)	Whitehurst	93
(3)	Bliley	93
(4)	Daniel, R.	93
(5)	Daniel, D.	93
(7)	Robinson	93
(8)	Parris	86
(9)	Wampler	86
(10)	Wolf	86

WASHINGTON		
District		% Right
(1)	Pritchard	91
(2)	Swift	71
(4)	Morrison	93
(5)	Foley	79
(6)	Dicks	77

WEST VIRGINIA		
District		% Right
(3)	Staton	93

WISCONSIN		
District		% Right
(3)	Gunderson	79
(4)	Zablocki	67
(8)	Roth	93
(9)	Sensenbrenner	79

WYOMING		
District		% Right
AL	Cheney	86

# Recent Books

Reprints from Battery Press, Inc., include **Freely I Served** by Maj Gen Stanislaw Sosabowski, a Polish soldier who commanded Polish paratroopers in the ill-fated Market Garden operation, 203 pages, \$18.95, **S.L.A. Marshall's Night Drop**, the story of the airborne invasion of Normandy, 425 pages, \$18.95, **Wings of Pegasus**, the history of the British Glider Pilot Regiment, by Brig. George Chatterton, 282 pages, \$18.95, and the **History of the 398th Infantry Regiment in World War II** by Bernard Boston, 208 pages, \$17.50.

The **College Financial Aid Emergency Kit** by Joyce Lain Kennedy and Dr. Herm Davis, \$3.50, 52 pages, Sun Features, Inc. This publication tells all about getting help to pay college expenses, includes a listing of sources.

The **Yankee Mariner & Sea Power** edited by Joyce J. Bartell, 299 pages, \$20, University of Southern California Press. This is a compilation of papers delivered at a conference on the impact of American sea power.

When the Going Was Good! by Jeffrey Hart, \$15.95, 304 pages, Crown. Subtitled, "American Life in the Fifties," Hart finds that era a most happy time.

**The Third World War: The Untold Story** by Gen. John Hackett, \$15.75, 375 pages, Macmillan. His theme is the need for the free world to build up its armed forces to prevent the nuclear holocaust from happening.

**Last Call for HMS Edinburgh** by Frank Pearce, \$14.95, 200 pages, Atheneum. This is the story of the sinking of a British ship on convoy duty to Murmansk.

**The Terrors of Justice** by Maurice H. Stans, \$12.95, 478 pages, Ewertest. A Watergate defendant tells his side of the story.

**The End of the Line** by Robert Pisor, \$14.95, 319 pages, Norton. Written by a former Detroit News correspondent, this story of Khe Sanh is considered by many authorities the definitive work on the subject.

**Military Service in the United States** edited by Gen. Brent Scowcroft, \$7.95, 226 pages, the American Assembly. The writer runs the gamut of military concerns for the 1980s, including the need for a draft.

**Silence Was a Weapon: The Vietnam War in the Villages** by Stuart A. Herrington, \$15.95, 222 pages, Presidio. An aspect of the war in Vietnam rarely treated, turning Communist insurgents around, is described.

**The Terrorists: Their Weapons, Leaders and Tactics** by Christopher Dobson and Ronald Payne, \$14.95, 262 pages, Facts on File. Little about this latest threat to world stability is overlooked.

**Counterattack: The West's Battle Against the Terrorists** by Christopher Dobson and Ronald Payne, \$14.95, 198 pages, Facts on File. The strategies, weapons and leadership that are defeating the terrorists are described.

**The Yom Kippur War** by Peter Allen, \$17.95, 310 pages, Scribners. This is the story of how Israel defeated the Arabs in 1973.

**Lost Victories** by Erich von Manstein, \$18.95, 373 pages, Presidio. These are the war memoirs of Hitler's most brilliant general.

**Paperbacks from Bantam**  
The **Dirty Dozen** by E. M. Nathanson, \$3.95, 543 pages, The Tunnel at Loibl Pass by Andrew Lacaze, \$4.95, 601 pages, London Calling North Pole by H. J. Giskes, \$2.50, 248 pages, Unit Pride by John McAleer and Billy Dickson, \$3.95, 515 pages, D-Day by David Howarth, \$2.95, 228 pages, Two Jims by Richard F. Newcomb, \$2.95, 300 pages, Final Harbor by Harry Homewood, \$2.95, 305 pages, and **Pig Boats** by Theodore Roscoe, \$3.50, 449 pages.

**On Strategy: A Critical Analysis of the Vietnam War** by Col. Harry G. Summers, Jr., Presidio Press, 225 pages, \$12.95. Outlines how although Americans were never defeated on the battlefield, the war was lost.

**Spy/Counter Spy** by Vincent and Nan Buranelli, McGraw Hill, 361 pages, \$24.95. An encyclopedia on espionage from Elizabethan times to the 1980s.

**The Publicity Handbook** by David R. Yale, Bantam, 300 pages, \$3.50. A step-by-step guide to reaching the largest possible audience for the least amount of money.

**The Speaker's Treasury of Stories For All Occasions** by Herbert W. Prochnow, Prentice-Hall, 344 pages, \$7.95. Anecdotes, epigrams, wit, truisms and quotations indexed by subject for quick, easy reference.

**How to Protect Yourself from Crime** by Ira A. Lipman, Avon Books (959 Eighth Ave., New York, N.Y. 10019), 248 pages, \$2.95 (paperback). This valuable work addresses every type of personal crime imaginable, how to avoid it and what to do if victimized. Brimming with straightforward, easily understandable crime advice and specific protection information, this comprehensive manual of crime prevention also contains a security checklist at the end of each chapter. Recommended reading.

**Passing the Torch** by Edward Doyle, Samuel I. Lipsman and Stephen Weiss, Boston Publishing Co., 208 pages, \$14.95. Covering the years 1946 to 1960, this second volume in a 14-part series portrays France's failure in Indochina and reveals the complicated course of American involvement in Vietnam up until the time President Kennedy took office.

**War in Peace. Conventional and Guerrilla Warfare Since 1945** by Sir Robert Thompson, Harmony Books, 312 pages, \$25. In the 36 years of "peace" since the end of World War II, there have been more than 25 wars, revolutions and acts of international terrorism. This work chronicles and illustrates with hundreds of action photographs the tactics and strategies practiced on modern battlefields around the world.

(See Recent Books page 54)

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Viking Tarp Mfg. will send any of the above size tarpaulins to any reader of this publication who reads and responds to this test before midnight Nov. 21. Each tarpaulin Lot [#Z-18, PVC] is constructed of high density fabric (with virgin grade ingredient, supplied by Gulf Oil Co., Dow Chemical Co., and Union Oil Co.) with nylon reinforced rope hems, double lock stitched hems, electronically welded seams, 100% water proof, #4 (1/2" dia.) metal grommets set on 3 ft. centers with reinforced triangular corner patches and are recommended for all heavy duty use, and all bulk or pallet riding materials, and will be accompanied with a LIFETIME guarantee that it must perform 100% or it will be replaced free. Add \$7 handling & crating for each tarp ordered. Viking Tarp Mfg. pays all shipping. Should you wish to return your tarpaulins you may do so for a full refund. Any letter postmarked later than Nov. 21 will be returned. LIMIT: Fifty (50) tarps per address, no exceptions. Send appropriate sum together with your name & address to Tarp Test Dept. #401K, Viking Tarp Mfg., Inc., 6314 Santa Monica Blvd., L.A., CA, 90038, or for fastest service from any part of the country call collect, before midnight 7 days a week (213) 462-1914. (Ask Operator for) TARP TEST #401K, have credit card ready.

## VFW Service Office Success Story

Fighting for veterans is an everyday story for the VFW Service Officer.

This month's actual event deals with a former POW of the Japanese who was initially denied service connection for the disabilities which resulted in his death.

While a POW, he suffered from the same problems most other prisoners did: anxiety neurosis; lack of vitamins with malnutrition; beriberi, and other disabling diseases.

The veteran died in October, 1979—more than 30 years after service. According to the VA, the cause of death was alcoholic hepatitis.

The VFW received his widow's application for a claim of service-connected death in November, 1979. In March, 1980, the VA denied the claim.

The New Mexico State Service Officer was not satisfied with the finding. Armed with hospital records and articles by the then medical consultant to the VFW, Dr. R. W. Murray, he had the ruling overturned by the Board of Veterans Appeals (BVA). The widow was awarded over \$11,000 and will receive other Dependency and Indemnity Compensation payments.

Hospital records showed the veteran had been hospitalized several

times before death for causes due to the imprisonment years before.

In 1977, he was suffering from an ankle ulcer. The next year he had chronic dermatitis and an ulceration of the right lower leg. In 1979, he had the same ulcer of his leg, high blood pressure and a lung infection. During each of his hospital visits, he admitted he drank, but not to the point of being classified as an alcoholic.

The VFW medical consultant medical information bulletins used in the appeal discussed the influence of malnutrition on liver disease.

The BVA held that his service connected disabilities were so debilitating that they rendered the veteran materially less capable of resisting the ravages of the disease which caused his death.

The BVA said the veteran's disabilities, not the abuse of alcohol alone, had substantially and materially contributed to the veteran's death.

Once again, the VFW was able to help a needy veteran's family based upon facts and professionalism available to it. Service Officers are dedicated to the Commander-in-Chief's motto: "Strength Through Service". Each has repaid his assistance to serve the needy veteran and his dependents.

## Recent Books

(Continued from page 53)

**The Battlecruiser Hood** by John Roberts, Naval Institute Press, 126 pages, \$18.95. This is the first volume in a series which uses hundreds of line drawings to depict the anatomy of famous warships literally down to their nuts and bolts. Each book also contains many photographs which emphasize close-up and on-board views of the ship.

**The Old Corps** by Brig. Gen. Robert H. Williams, USMC (ret.), Naval Institute Press, 140 pages, \$17.95. This well illustrated volume reflects the reminiscences of a junior officer who served with the U.S. Marine Corps during the period between the world wars.

**Breakout** by John Deane Potter, Bantam, 241 pages, \$2.50 (paperback). Seemingly trapped in French waters by English forces, the German warships Scharnhorst, Gneisenau and Prinz Eugen led a massive fleet of escorts out into the English Channel during a daring daylight escape attempt. This work chronicles the results of that brazen gamble, Feb. 11, 1942.

**Alanbrooke** by David Fraser, Atheneum, 604 pages, \$19.95. As Chief of the Imperial General

Staff, Alanbrooke became one of the principal architects of the Allied strategy which defeated Nazi Germany. This biography traces his life, his achievements and his often stormy relationship with Allied leaders.

**A Soldier's War** by Joseph Antonitis, Marsh Point Press (PO Box 96, Orono, Maine 04473), 111 pages, \$4.95 (add \$1 for postage). This powerful blend of verse and narrative faithfully reflects the author's experiences as a soldier in North Africa fighting with the 1st Infantry Division in World War II.

**An Army in Exile: The Story of the Second Polish Corps** by Lt. Gen. W. Anders, C.B., Battery Press, 319 pages, \$18.95.

**Viking of Assault: Admiral John Leslie Hall, Jr., and Amphibious Warfare** by Susan H. Godson, University Press of America (PO Box 19101, Washington, D.C. 20036), 237 pages, \$10.25 (paper), \$21.50 (cloth). This study of U.S. amphibious operations in Europe uses Adm. Hall's pivotal career to describe the development and perfection of massive seaborne landings in World War II.

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## Auxiliary's Record Year

(Continued from page 43)



Florence Taylor

Colo., and \$25 to Michelle Min, Overland Park, Kans.

Cancer aid and research contributions soared over the \$2 million mark in 1982, the greatest amount contributed in auxiliary history. Cancer grants announced or presented, in addition to St. Jude and ACS, by National President Watson were \$5,000 to the Jonsson Cancer Center, University of California at Los Angeles; \$25,000 to the Cancer, Center, University of Louisville Medical School; \$10,000 to the Jackson Laboratory, Bar Harbor, Maine; and \$36,000 in two cancer fellowships of \$18,000 each to Dr. Richard Stenberg, University of Iowa College of Medicine, and Dr. Alan Weitberg, Massachusetts General Hospital. The total awarded for 1982 cancer research, fellowships and public education reached \$91,000. The 3,857 grants, totaling \$1,057,600, brought financial aid to cancer-stricken members.

An Auxiliary contribution of \$6,000 for continued support of Bong Chun Center in Korea was announced by President Watson. Gen. Chong Hwan Kim, President of the Korean Veterans Association, and Gen. Cheng Wei-yuan, chairman of the Vocational Assistance Commission for Retired Servicemen on Taiwan, presented plaques to President Watson.

Other National Officers elected for 1982-83 were Mrs. Harriet Timmons, of Hugo, Colo., national Senior Vice President; Mrs. Glenneta Vogelsang, of Cape Girardeau, Mo., Junior Vice President; Mrs. Glenn Grossman, of Kansas City, Mo., Secretary Treasurer; Mrs. Lucile Suchina, of Houston, Texas, Chaplain; Mrs. Rosemary Mazer, of East Brunswick, N.J., Conductress, and Mrs. Joan Katkus, Wasilla, Alaska, national guard. **VFW**

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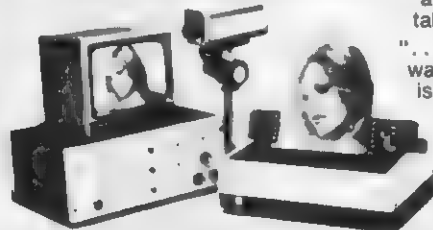
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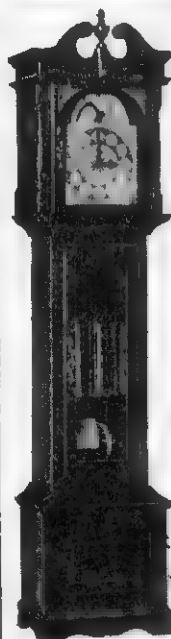
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Lewis G Healy, 95 B Galian Drive, Bremerton, Wash 98312

155th BG (H), 742nd Bombardment Sqdrn. (H)—Robert I  
Arnall, PO Box 142, Elizabethtown, Ky 42701

457th Amphibian Truck Co. (WWII)—Charles J Wollscheid  
6046 W 64th St, Chicago, IL 60638

198th BG, 844th Sqdrn. (Haleworth, England, 1944)—Sgt  
Charles P Zimmerman, 6687 Emory Rupe, others—Bob Angle, Rt 3,  
Box 27, Thornton, Texas 76787

657th Eng. Topo. Bn.—Galen P Dively, Rt 1, Claysburg, Pa  
16825

823rd TD, CO, B—Specifically, Francis F Wilts—Oscar Hewitt,  
Rt 3, Box 55, Johnson City, Texas 76036

Fort Lewis, Wash.—Specifically, Jack Morris, last known as tank  
arsenal draftsman at Fort Lewis—Emmett E. Morrell, director,  
Sanilac County Dept of Veterans Affairs, 61 W Sanilac, Sandusky,  
Mich 44871

### MARINE CORPS

1st Mar. Div., 1st Pioneer Pltn. (WWII)—Dewey Murgan, 3116  
Fairview, Jonesboro, Ark 72401

2nd Mar. Div., 2nd Med. Bn., Co. A (Saipan)—Specifically  
Langdon, Hart, Long about lungs William Early Garner, 2620  
Amos Circle, Raleigh, N.C. 27610

### NAVY

USS Chew (DD106) (1917-24, 1940-45)—J E Pond, Jr., PO Box  
203, Sperryville, Va 22740

USS Chilton (APA-38) 1961-1963—Specifically, L.S. Tomlinson,  
Harold R. Kimberling, Robert A. Smith, Jr., James Chaplin, James  
Bundau, John Joseph Quinn, Arthur F Mikos, James I. Snel-  
ters, G V R Smith, others concerning claim for a riot broken in storm  
off Spanish coast—Billy G. Spence, Mountain Valley, Vandevle, Ky  
41385

USS McCalla (DD-488)—Specifically, John Iugenbeel, H1 Spray,  
Howard Wahab or others remembering me—Kenneth L. Jensen,  
Intake Star Rte 5165, Glendive, Mont 59330

USS Montpelier (CL57) 1944-1946—Specifically, any former  
members of galley crew who served with William J Wells—Edna M  
Wells, 2128 McDougall, Everett, Wash 98201

### ARMY

Americal Div. (WWII)—Daniel Pisani, 1311 Folly Rd., PO Box  
186, Warrington, Pa 18976

CCC Camp 2721 (Clarinda and Moulville, Iowa, 1937-1942)—  
Frank Isaacson, 4994 Mattis Rd., St. Louis, Mo 63128

9th Air Force (Whitetail Marauders, 323rd BG, 455th Bomb  
Sqdr.)—R.M. Weick, 114 Fontana Dr., Oxnard, Calif 93034

12th AF, 36th ADG Rpr, Sqdr. (WWII)—Joseph N. Lessarp, 54  
W Front St., Skowhegan, Maine 04976

15th Air Force, 454th BG (WWII)—Chris McDougall, 3921 6th  
St., Urbandale, Iowa 50322

30th Div., 105th Combat Engrs., Co. A, 3rd Pltn. (WWII)—  
James Campbell, Rt 1, Box 158, Green Brier, Tenn. 37073

60th CAC AA (P.L., 1938-40)—Specifically, Clarence Bowman  
John H. Pape, 5696 57th Ave N., St. Petersburg, Fla 34709

102nd Engr (C) Bn., Cos. A and B (WWII)—Ralph DeGroot,  
567 Wilmore Rd., New Rochelle, NY 10801

103rd Inf. Div., 409th Inf. Rgt., 3rd Bn., Co. L (WWII)—Harley  
Richardson, 2129 Wilburn Pl., Bethany, Okla 74008

206th Combat Engrs.—Lorenzo S Saldivar, PO Box 177, Rio  
Hondo, Texas 78583

227th Gen. Hosp. (Marseille and Mourmelon, France, 1945)—  
Specifically, Alfred Lawrence—Clarence Hoffman, Rt 2, Box 164,  
Choctaw, Okla 74020

228th Chem. Depot (1943-45)—Charlie Weaver, Rt 2, Box 311-1  
Howard, Pa. 16841

361st Air Svc. Grp., 624th Air Materiel Sqdr. (Air Base 521, Base  
Sqdr., Haward, Neb., 1946)—Specifically, Paul Gale Bennett  
Chester Bond, PO Box 625, Olive Hill, Ky 41161

594th FA Bn., Fort Polk, La., (1950-52)—Like to contact all  
former members—Joseph Diggs, 1914 Kings Grant Dr., Augusta, Ga  
30906

640th QM (1943-January, 1946)—Charlie Mills, 405 W Glenwood  
Ave., Knoxville, Tenn 37917

788th AAA, Bn., Co. Axel Schiller, 905 Neans Dr., Austin, Texas  
78758

834th Engr. Avn. Bn., HQ Co.—Anthony Niswora, 7 Tennis Pl.,  
Nurley, NJ 07110

912th Ord. Co. (ETO, WWII)—Charles Feltine, 3401 6th St.,  
Muskegon, Mich 49444

2867th Engr. Utility Detachment Co. (Manila, 1945)—Edward  
Barbers, Box 116, Mosinee, Wis 54455

3465th Ord. (SWP, 1944-45)—Amos Feeler, 412 Prince Charles  
O Fallon, Mo 63366

### NAVY

USS ATA 122 (1943-45)—Anthony P Leimre, 59 Bronson St.,  
Littleton, NH 03561

USS Cushing (DD376/1939-42)—Charles Countryman, 129  
Balustrad Pl., San Ramon, Calif 94583

(See Notices page 57)



## REUNIONS

Only printed or typed submissions can be considered. A form for your convenience is available on request from VFW Magazine. Publication is on a space available, once-a-year basis. Priority goes to material received at least four months before the reunion. No charge is made for publication, but there is no assurance the reunion notice will be used.

### MARINE CORPS

**November**  
Cape/Atlantic Detach., Marine Corps League—21, Atlantic City, NJ—William H. Barry, Jr., Brigantine, NJ 08203

### NAVY

**November**  
STAG ONE SATFOR—6 weekend, Monterey, Calif.—JJ Hall, PO Box 5721, Titusville, Fla. 32780  
USS Formoe (DE 509)—13, Alexandria, Va., J.R. Rickenbach, 407 State St., Shillington, Pa. 19607  
USS Indianapolis (CA 35), Bird Class minesweepers—11-14, San Diego, Calif.—Reginald F. Paul, 2415 Morena Blvd., San Diego, Calif. 92110

### NAVY

**December**  
USS Phoenix (CL 46)—Dec 1-3, San Antonio, Texas.—Contact Chester J. Millman, 7514 Cherry Tree Dr., Tulton, Md. 20759

### ARMY

**November**  
187th Gen. Hosp. (WWII, England)—6-7, Tucson, Ariz.—Mrs Yvonne Coco Faller, PO Box 975, Ponchatoula, La. 70454  
933rd FA (WWII)—6, Geneva, Ala.—Alva T. Joiner, PO Box 70, Ramer, Ala. 36069

## Notices...

(Continued from page 56)

USS Erben (DD63)—Mark Blitzstein, 20 W. Montgomery Ave., Apt. 103, Ardmore, Pa. 18003  
USS EVANS (DD552)—Larry Dick, 1610A Sylvan Ave., Modesto, Calif. 95355  
LCI(M) 755 (1945-46)—Peter E. Pestoni, 204 W. Curtis St., Salinas, Calif. 93906  
CBMU 527 (1944-45)—Ralph E. Bemis, 918 Inagua W., Venice, Fla. 33595

### MARINE CORPS

Bombing Sqdrn. 611 (VMB-611)—Seeking former members, WWII, for association.—Gilbert E. De Blous, 9904 Stroughton Rd., Fairfax, Va. 22032

### Miscellaneous

### ARMY

38th Mechanized Cavalry Sqdrn., 102nd Cavalry Gp.—Seeking information about reunions, other info about unit.—Ray Green, Rt. 5, Box 375, Palarka, Fla. 32077

43rd Signal Co.—Membership open to all its veterans.—Contact Robert L. Grace, 27 Merry Mount Dr., Warwick, R.I. 02888

6th Obs. Sqdrn. (later, 2nd Composite Sqdrn.) Marshall Field, Kans., 1942-1945.—Seeking squadron patch, lapel pin or info where one can be obtained.—Ken Szczesny, 3116 S. Aberdeen St., Chicago, Ill. 60608

Army Quartermaster Corps (WWII)—Seeking father whom I have never seen. His name is Ernest Harvey McMahon.—Rosemary K. Cornwell, 17 N. L. St., Apt. 1, Lakeview, Ore. 97630

Wanted—Vols. 1, 2, 5 and 4 of Pictorial History of Second World War published by Wm. H. Wise & Co., New York, 1946.—William J. Maxam, 260 Log Plain Rd., Greenfield, Mass. 01301

MAAG Taiwan—Seeking shoulder patch, mine lost in an armed robbery.—J. Kessler, PO Box 2108, Gary, Ind. 46409

### NAVY

USS Hancock (CV-19/CVA-19)—Collecting memorabilia, souvenirs from 1944 to 1976 for museum room on Yorktown at Patriots Point, S.C.—Edmund Orchowski, 5427 Bussart St., Pittsburgh, Pa. 15206

USS Salt Lake City (CA25)—Seeking 16mm film strip of ship in action for next reunion.—Myron D. Varland, 715 Blackmer Ave., Albert Lea, Minn. 56007

Vietnam Veterans—Seeking stories of return home.—Mrs. Tonja Hummel, 8726 Plumm Cr. 103, Lenexa, Kans. 66215

Australia—Seeking memories of Americans who served there, WWII.—Geoff Baker, 26 Anderson St., Euroa, Victoria 3666, Australia

12th Armored Div., 101st Cav., 4th Div., 63rd Inf. Div., 254th, 255th Rpts.—Seeking info, photos of events at Schweibisch Hall ME 262 a reform, liberation of Stalag concentration camp prisoners near Lake Starnberg for documentary.—Michael Koziol, Zum Holzle 5, D-7170 Schweibisch Hall 9, Federal Republic of Germany

240th Assault Helicopter Co. (Vietnam)—Seeking accounts of actions during 1969 from former members, other data for book Wilbert W. Thompson, 234 Stacy Weaver Dr., Fayetteville, N.C. 28301

13th Air Force, 339th Fighter Sqdrn., 347th Fighter Gp. (1942-1958) and Lt. Cargill L. Beach, killed March 16, 1945.—Seeking info from two books.—C.L. Curtis, 45298-CR 380, Bloomington, Mich. 48106

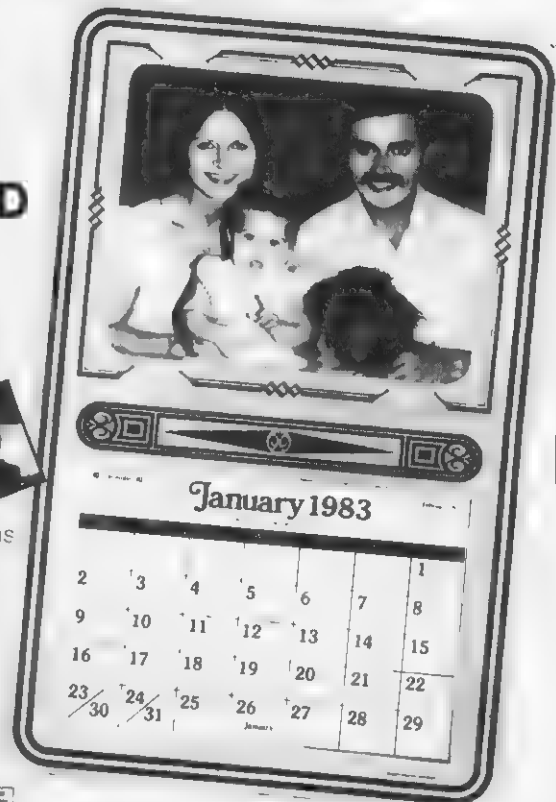
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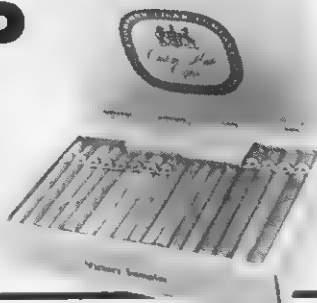
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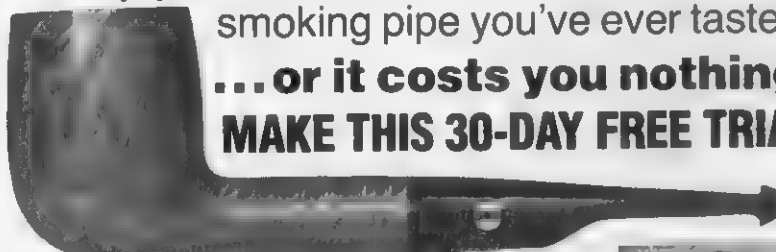
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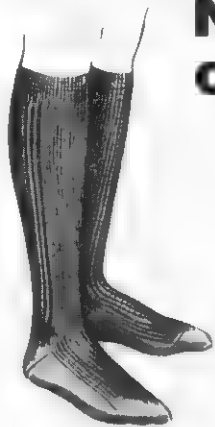
Converted to percentages, this was 56%, Windsor Supreme; 43%, the other one, and 4%, no preference.

To demonstrate its gratitude to VFW Convention delegates for their participation in the tasting competition, the distillers of Windsor Supreme Canadian Whisky provided the refreshments for the Distinguished Guests Reception prior to the Convention banquet.

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## Pre-Act Against Crime

By Ira A. Lipman

A criminal's major advantage is that he prepares to catch you off guard. Your best defense, then, is to be prepared at all times. Here are some suggestions on how to avoid becoming a victim:

An obituary will list the time and place of funeral services, with the expectation that every member of the deceased's household will attend. Knowing this, burglars regularly read the obituaries. To thwart them, always arrange for someone to house-sit whenever everyone is away.

When you go out or retire for the evening, remember that lights are the major enemy of the burglar. Use them.

Never have the phone disconnected while you are away. A temporary disconnection clearly indicates you haven't paid your bill or you are out of town.

If you must walk at night, avoid the curb. Someone could hide between two parked cars or in a parked car and ambush you, or, if driving by, could reach through a car window and snatch your purse or attache case.

If you are being followed, walk as quickly as you can to the nearest police officer or telephone and report it. Look for other people to walk near or a mailbox. The presence of people will deter a purse snatcher, while a mailbox is a safe place to deposit your purse or wallet to avoid its theft.

A dog is an effective security weapon.

(See Pre-Act page 66)

Ira A. Lipman, president of Guardsmark, Inc., is author of "How To Protect Yourself From Crime," from which this article has been adapted. It is a 248-page Avon Books original. He is a director and member of the executive committee of the National Council on Crime and Delinquency.



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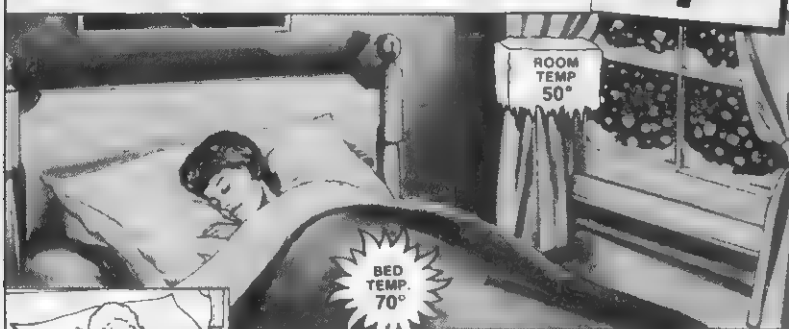
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Pre-Act...

(Continued from page 64)

People should seriously consider owning one if they can.

When you are away, arrange to have your regular routine performed during your absence. Have a neighbor take in the newspapers, raise and draw the shades and turn the lights on and off.

As a general rule, secure locks on all outside doors and windows. The dead-bolt lock is the best security buy for the money. Sufficient lighting, a dog, a lock on the bedroom door, a phone in the bedroom and a cautious attitude toward all strangers are practices essential to security. Unfortunately, as the crime statistics show, they are precautions ignored by many.

The first rule is to limit your losses. If you carry little enough cash, the robber's take won't break you, but hopefully it will be big enough to satisfy him. Otherwise, he may give vent to his rage by a physical assault.

If confronted by a robber, especially one who is armed, give up your valuables willingly and quickly. Your life is worth more than anything you are carrying.

Here are some additional protection tips:

If you believe someone is in your house, go immediately to a neighbor's and call the police. Don't try to be a hero.

If you are being followed on a well-traveled street, slow down, speed up, reverse direction. In other words, indicate to your pursuer that you are aware of him. Then go straight for help. Going straight home just lets him know where you can be found.

Windows above ground level require less protection than ground-level windows only if they are generally inaccessible. If in doubt, protect them as if they were at ground level.

A caller who hangs up without speaking may be attempting to determine whether or not the house is occupied. Use such a call as a reminder to check your security measures.

Senior citizens should arrange daily phone contacts with relatives and check with neighbors regularly.

Be cautious when using 24-hour banking equipment. If you notice suspicious-looking people hanging out, wait until

(See Pre-Act page 68)

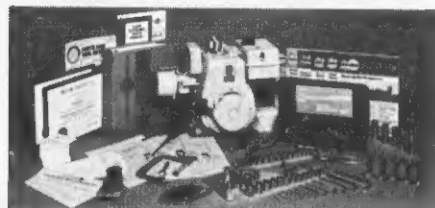
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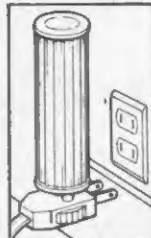
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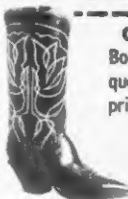
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## Pre-Act...

(Continued from page 66)

they leave or visit another branch.

The probability that the offender will be arrested will increase by about 10% if you call the police within two minutes of the crime. Always report a crime, even if you are only a witness.

A complete solution to our crime problem is not just around the corner. Until and unless we reach that point, most of the responsibility for your protection is yours. We aren't suggesting that you arm yourself or organize vigilante groups. Nor are we recommending unrealistic acts of heroism that may in fact increase your peril or loss. Instead, we are mainly urging that everyone take a series of common-sense preventive measures.

For example, it is estimated that half of all auto thefts result from keys being left in the ignition, that one fourth of all illegal entries into homes are made through unlocked doors. Crime is being made too easy for the criminal.

City-by-city surveys across the country at the end of the calendar year 1980 show the public is concerned about crime like never before. I advocate planning in advance and hope to direct individuals into a positive, preventive approach. We stress psychological and physical readiness—preaction rather than reaction. **VFW**

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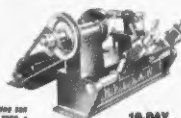
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## Distinguished Guest

(continued from page 18)



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Auxiliary President Marion Watson and Jr. Vice Commander-in-Chief-designate Billy Ray Cameron.

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# Jest-a-minute



## He Can't Win

A 40-year-old bachelor complained to a friend that no matter what woman he brought home as a potential bride, his mother took an immediate dislike to her. The friend advised him: "Find a girl like your mother, then she's bound to like her."

Six months later, the bachelor reported to the friend: "I took your advice. I found a girl who looked like my mother, talked like my mother and even cooked like my mother."

"And what happened?"

The bachelor replied: "My father hated her."

## Her Point of View

A lady got off the doctor's scale. She was obviously not happy. "A little overweight?" asked the doctor pleasantly. "Oh, no," she managed to smile, "but according to your height table, I should be 6 inches taller."

—QUOTE

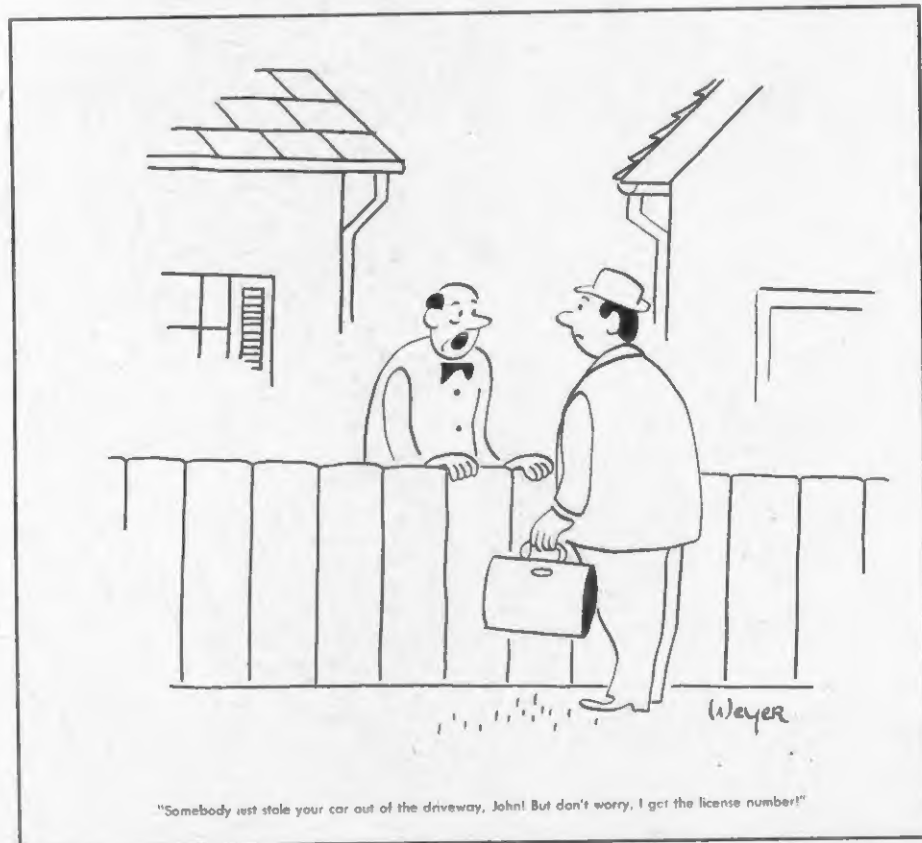


## Quick Reaction

"Here's a story about an uneducated man," the wife said, "who met a woman and became a scholar in two years."

Her husband responded: "That's nothing. I know an intelligent man who met a woman and made a fool of himself in two days."

—QUOTE



## Duffer Recall

"You think so much of your golf game that you don't even remember when we were married," the wife pouted.

"Sure I do, honey. It was the day I sank the 40-foot putt."

—QUOTE



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